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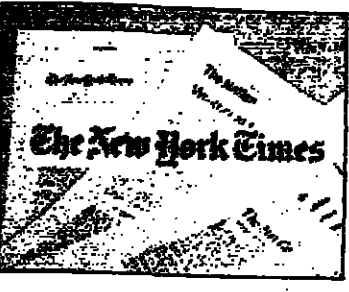
THE JERUSALEM POST

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Israel to issue Holocaust archive 'dirty list'

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Israel next week will officially release a so-called dirty list, containing the names of more than a dozen international organizations, both public and private, which the government alleges hold information on Holocaust victims and other related activities, which they are refusing to publish, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs, will publicize the list during the US State Department Holocaust era restitution conference, which begins in Washington on Sunday.

"These are archives which create conditions that stop Holocaust investigative scholars, researchers, and plain Jews searching for the truth from getting

information contained within them," said Brown.

The list includes:

- The Czech Republic's federal state archive and the country's Jewish museum, located in Prague.
- The Sturmer archives at Nuremberg in Germany.
- The Vatican - including all state and church archives.

- The commission investigating crimes against the Polish nation and the Polish state archives.
- The national archive of Russia, which is currently open but from which information is very expensive to access, and the KGB and other military archives at Podolsk.
- The British MI-5 secret service archive and that of the custodian of

enemy property.

- Italian-based insurer Assicurazioni Generali, which holds information relating to more than 330,000 Holocaust era policies.
- Various other private and corporate archives, particularly of German industry, insurance companies, churches and hospitals.

At the London gold conference a year

ago, Israel declared there are no longer reasons for archives to withhold information.

"We as the Jewish people have the right to know everything that happened - there are no more secrets," said Brown. "We call on all - archives, national, corporate, private, organizational - that contain information about this period to open up."



Planting the flag
A settler plants the national flag atop the deserted railroad station in Sebastia yesterday, as part of a bid to establish a new settlement. Story, Page 2.

PM fails to cool unity fever

Sheetrit: Gov't can't function as it is

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bureau last night issued an official denial to rumors that he is considering forming a national unity coalition, terming it "utterly baseless speculation."

It went on to assert that "the prime minister has no intention to remove or in any way hurt any of his ministers. The rumors were circulated by those who are striving to foment discord inside the government."

Likud sources claim that the recent unity talk has in particular irked Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, who is sure to lose his job to Labor Party leader Ehud Barak should Labor join a coalition under Netanyahu. The denial was chiefly issued, *The Jerusalem Post* was told, to pacify Mordechai.

The denial, however, did not end the national unity fever.

Likud whip Meir Sheetrit is to summon the Likud MKs today to discuss the unity option. No ministers were invited to the meeting. The choice, according to Sheetrit, is either unity or early elections.

"The government," he said, "cannot continue functioning as it

is. The aftermath of the Wye agreement has made expanding the coalition a must. Otherwise the government will be at the mercy of any small party."

Illustrating just that point, Agudat Yisrael's Council of Torah Sages yesterday instructed the four United Torah Judaism MKs to quit the coalition as soon as any local religious council meets with a Reform or Conservative member in attendance.

But in UTJ there was no consensus about the sages' directive. MK Avraham Ravitz argued that "it does not constitute an order, but is a recommendation with some leeway to it."

He personally does not intend to step down as chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, lest that powerful position be usurped by another party.

UTJ had asked Netanyahu to initiate a bill circumventing the High Court ruling that Reform and Conservative representatives be admitted to the religious councils. Netanyahu reportedly replied that the coalition's fragile post-Wye condition makes it impossible for him to move now on the promised legislation.

More trouble for Netanyahu

came from Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan. The two met after Eitan last week threatened to quit the government over the cabinet's approval of the Wye Memorandum. Yesterday, he said he would support the pending early elections bills.

Meanwhile, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani denied he is in league with Shas leader Aryeh Deri to force Netanyahu to invite Labor into a unity coalition. Kahalani said any talk of coercing either of the sides would achieve precisely the opposite result.

He added that he understands Netanyahu's concern that, if he issued a public invitation to Labor, he would be abandoned by such coalition partners as the National Religious Party.

After that, realizing Netanyahu cannot possibly muster even an ad hoc majority, Labor would rebuff Netanyahu and bring his government down.

The unity idea was rejected by Barak last week. He and a third of his Labor faction are touring Germany and Britain to pick up pointers from the ruling socialists in both countries on how their parties won recent elections.

Neeman seeks US pullback aid

By HILLEL KUTLER

WASHINGTON - Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman paid a quick visit here yesterday to begin consultation with administration officials on an aid package to help compensate for the costs of the redeployment.

Neeman left Washington immediately afterwards, but the discussions will continue this week here, and later in Israel, with the goal of formulating a joint Israeli-American request to present to Congress when legislators return to work on January 7.

Neeman did not meet with congressional representatives on this trip. He was joined by Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran and Ambassador Zalman Shoval.

See NEEMAN, Page 2

Uninformed parents outraged at burial of commandos' body parts

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The parents of two naval commandos killed in a botched raid in Lebanon last year, Third Petty Officer Guy Golan and 3PO Raz Tebi, claim that parts of their sons' bodies were buried this past summer without their knowledge and are demanding a full inquiry.

They also demand that the recently retired OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. (res.) Gideon Sheffer and OC Chaplaincy Corps Maj.-Gen. Gad Navon be tried for their part in the affair.

The fathers of Golan and Tebi told a Tel Aviv press conference they want their son's bodies exhumed and reburied properly. They are angry with what they see as the "sly and negligent way" the IDF identified the body parts and buried them without informing the families.

"We are not talking about a hand or an ear or a body part that is buried without informing the fam-

ilies. Here we had more than half of my son's body," said Tebi's father, Nachshon.

"I'm not sure they are my son's body parts buried there, because they never did a DNA test on them. And if it was done only according to size and color, how am I to know that they aren't the parts of some Hizbullah man?" Tebi asked.

For Jews, the question of the soldiers' burial strikes an ultra-sensitive chord, since religious law requires that all body parts be given the same respect. Cremation is not allowed and soldiers are buried in the uniforms they wore so that even their blood is interred with them. This stems mainly from the belief in resurrection, for which the body should be whole.

Tebi and Golan were killed, along with nine other commandos from the crack navy Flotilla 13 unit and an IDF doctor, on September 4, 1997 during a raid in

Lebanon. An IDF inquiry ruled that the commandos accidentally set off two, apparently randomly placed, bombs which virtually wiped out the 16-man unit. One soldier, 3PO Itamar Ilya, was not recovered and his remains were collected by Amal, Hizbullah, and the Lebanese Army.

Ilya's remains were returned in a German-brokered deal last June 25. At the time, Hizbullah officials insisted that the body parts they returned were from at least three Israeli soldiers. But IDF officials at the time dismissed this.

But the parents of Golan and Tebi suspected that parts of their sons were included with Ilya's remains and they sought a clarification from the IDF.

Two weeks later, on July 12, the families were told that the other body parts were indeed their sons and that they had been buried by the army.

See BURIAL, Page 2

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El Al: We need Shabbat flights to compete

By HANI SHAPIRO

El Al must be freed from its Shabbat flying ban if it is to cope with increased competition resulting from the present world recession, chairman Yosef Ciechanover hinted in a veiled warning yesterday.

"El Al is prepared for the year 2000 and is creating marketing plans, but it must be freed of the limitations of a government company and undergo privatization," Ciechanover said.

Although Ciechanover did not mention Shabbat flights, his listeners understood that this was the issue to which he was referring.

In fact, Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, who agreed to the sale of only 49 percent of the El Al shares, stated specifically that he would never agree to the privatization of the company in order to

Among the pressures faced by El Al is the tendency of many of the foreign airlines to increase their flights to Israel, with the additional flights on Saturday.

Speaking at a conference of El Al representatives from all over the world at Tel Aviv's Carlton Hotel, Ciechanover predicted that, after three years during which most of the world's airlines flourished, we are beginning to see a slowdown, which has begun in the Far East.

Airlines are ordering fewer aircraft and are competing for business more vigorously. In their

search for more passengers, many of the airlines are increasing their efforts to get more passengers from Israel.

At the same time, El Al is looking ahead to 1999 and the millennium and an expected increase of passengers to Israel. To face this challenge, and to make its product more attractive to its passengers, the airline has been investing heavily in new aircraft.

El Al is also fearful of government plans to allow the creation of a new cargo airline, one which would also not be hampered by the no-flights-on-Shabbat rule.



NEWS

in brief

NIS 50m. budgeted for Temple Mount security

The Ministerial Committee on Jerusalem decided yesterday to budget more than NIS 50 million to upgrade security at the Temple Mount, fearing that either Jewish or Moslem extremists could attempt sabotage, Israel Radio reported. The security measures include deploying 450 police and putting in closed circuit television for surveillance.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Palestinians in Megiddo start hunger strike

A number of Palestinian prisoners from the Fatah movement at the IDF's Megiddo Prison have gone on a hunger strike in an effort to win freedom in the next prisoner release, Israel Radio said yesterday. The IDF spokesman refused to comment.

Arteh O'Sullivan

Palestinian Police to crack down on car theft

Palestinian Police chief Maj.-Gen. Ghazi Jabali has decided to launch a campaign, beginning tomorrow, to collect stolen and illegal vehicles, Palestinian Police sources said yesterday. The sources added that the buyers and sellers of these cars will be arrested and tried. Car theft, they said, harms the national economy and the national security.

Mohammed Najib

Court: Immigrants may be deported for fraud

The High Court yesterday found for the Interior Ministry in rejecting an appeal by an immigrant from the CIS whose immigrant status was revoked because his identification documents had been forged. The court upheld the ministry's view that there is no room to reconsider the case since the immigrant status had been obtained by fraud. According to this precedent, newcomers whose papers are found illegitimate could be forced to return to their native country.

litim

NEEMAN

Continued from Page 1

They met with Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk and Undersecretary Stuart Eizenstat at the State Department.

Defense attaché Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne and financial attaché Ohad Marani will, with Shoval, continue the discussions with American officials. The talks will then continue in Israel, led by Indyk, during President Bill Clinton's trip to the region in mid-December.

The sides agreed to establish a working group "to develop expeditiously proposals to meet Israel's critical security requirements as a basis for consultation with Congress."

The US also said it will discuss

with Congress "an enhanced US economic package" to assist the Palestinians "to bolster Palestinian economic development."

The joint statement released by the two sides said that the Americans "agreed to study" Israel's detailed request for funds to help pay for its new security needs, including the "enhancement of Israeli security and counter-terrorism efforts."

Citing the sensitivity of the matter, Israeli officials refused to discuss whether they had raised a specific monetary figure, but both US and Israeli officials have predicted the request would be for about \$1 billion.

Shoval said afterward that he expects the joint plan to be concluded in the "coming weeks."

First phase of Wye pullout ends

By DANNA HARMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu alleged last night that the prisoners the Palestinian Authority wants freed as part of the Wye redeployment are murderers and not political prisoners.

The IDF pulled out of eight small villages yesterday, completing the first phase of the Wye redeployment. With the conclusion of the process, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai briefed the cabinet on the implementation.

Netanyahu told the cabinet: "The Palestinians are trying to portray the issue in a fraudulent manner, as if we had committed ourselves to releasing only security prisoners."

"We cannot be asked to do what we haven't promised," he later told a Likud rally in Tzfat.

"There is a demand that we release what they call 'political prisoners.' But these are not political prisoners. They are murderers - people who killed our women and children, who blew up our buses - and we have not made such a promise."

"On the contrary," the prime minister continued, "we have said that we would free Palestinians - but not those who have blood on their hands, or Hamas people. We will stand by this. We do not release murderers."

A spokesman for the US Embassy said the

Wye accord does not specify which prisoners are to be released. The Palestinians maintain that the promise had been made verbally.

"If we stood up for our prisoners the way the Palestinians do," said Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, looking at the matter from a different angle, "Jonathan Pollard would have long been home by now."

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky voiced concern at the speed at which things are going. "There are still misunderstandings, and gaps still remain. We need to work these out now, so we will not be faced with problems later," he said.

Also yesterday, most of the advance team preparing US President Bill Clinton's trip

here in early December went home, and will return in two weeks. Clinton is expected to arrive on December 12 for a four-day visit, during which he will hold meetings both in the PA and in Israel, address a mass rally in Gaza, and tour Bethlehem.

Mohammed Najib adds:

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat is expected to open the airport at Dahaniya tomorrow by taking a flight to France, PA sources said.

Seven planes are to land at the airport tomorrow, said Brig.-Gen. Fayed Zidan, head of the Palestinian Civil Aviation Authority.

Germany has contributed \$3 million in equipment for the airport, the sources said.

litim contributed to this report.



Protesting eviction

Peace Now members protest yesterday against the planned eviction of the Abasi family from a property in Jerusalem's Silvan neighborhood. Faisal Hussein, Palestinian Authority minister for Jerusalem, joined the protest. The family has been ordered by the Jewish National Fund to evacuate the premises, following a court decision against its 28 members. The eviction notice took effect yesterday.

(Text: Eli Wohlgelegen; photo: Kevin Unger)

BURIAL

Continued from Page 1

After further pressure, IDF representatives met the families at the cemetery and explained how a shaft was dug to their sons' graves and the body parts were pushed on top of the coffin.

Two weeks later, Navon met with Tebi and explained to him that a leg had been buried and that it had been identified by its size and skin color. When asked by Tebi why the family was not informed, Navon reportedly said he "didn't want to pain you."

"Today my son is buried in two places, and every time I visit his grave I feel awful. They never had the authority to do this," Tebi said. The Golan family relayed a similar story, adding that the identification was made by an anthropologist and not a pathologist. What angers the parents is their non-involvement in the entire ordeal.

Tebi said he was advised not to identify his son's body due to its mutilated state from the explosion of the explosives he had carried on his back.

"It is unbelievable that a naval commando gets this sort of treatment. It is a blow to the respect for the dead and the family of the dead," Tebi said. "The worst of all is the way they buried the bottom part of my son, which was one of the largest parts."

Golan's father Yoram said they are demanding an independent inquiry into the matter and that new burial regulations be drafted. He also said that criminal charges should be brought against Navon and Sheffer.

The IDF issued a statement last night acknowledging it did not inform the parents of the burial of the missing body parts. Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz met last July with Tebi at his request and apologized to him. He also ordered that Sheffer thoroughly investigate the matter.

The army said it has found that the IDF has never informed the parents of dead soldiers of post-funeral burials of body parts. It also said that the identification of Tebi and Golan was done by the "supreme professional authority" and according to Jewish law, as determined by the Chaplaincy Corps.

The army added that, in light of this incident, new regulations have been issued to give prior notice to family members of the burial of any additional body parts.

Settlers return to Sebastia

Judea, Samaria and Gaza Council rejects IDF fortification plans

By MARGOT DUDKEWICH

Planning to open a married students' yeshiva and construct a museum, a group of some 30 settlers from Shavei Shomron took over the deserted railway building at Sebastia yesterday afternoon, the site that symbolizes the beginning of settlement activity in Samaria.

The settlers hoisted flags and carried out preparations to stay overnight but then heeded army and police orders and vacated the site just before nightfall, vowing to return.

Another group pitched tents yesterday on a hill near the settlement of Itamar, also bringing with them some furniture and a generator.

Meanwhile, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza wrote a letter rejecting as inadequate the army's planned defense measures for 33 communities affected by the redeployment.

The strongly worded message to OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon and government officials claimed that the majority of terrorist attacks occurred on highways and roads leading to the settlements and not inside them.

Rather than "bandage a cancerous growth" said council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar, settlers expect the army to patrol and safeguard the main highways and roads and patrol sensitive areas instead of fortifying the communities.

The council offered several alternative suggestions to the army's proposals that included maintaining independent water and electrical power in each community, building helicopter pads, bullet-proofing buses for public and school transportation, boosting supplies of regular ammunition,

tear gas and rubber bullets in order to disperse riots; enhancing floodlights, flares and adding machine gun posts.

In addition, said Tayar, the council is waiting to hear from the army if proposals to distance settlements from Area A as much as possible in the coming stages of the second redeployment will be accepted.

Meanwhile Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai visited northern Samaria yesterday and met with IDF officers and regional commanders before meeting with representatives of the settlements Kadim and Ganim near Jenin.

Yaakov Even, secretary of the two communities, said residents hoped to receive information from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who is scheduled to visit the communities and meet with residents today.

The residents are mainly concerned that their daily lives will be disrupted and they will be forced to travel via Palestinian-manned roadblocks on the highway to and from work.

Mordechai assured the residents that the redeployment would not affect their daily lives, but Even said residents rejected the IDF proposals to enhance security and defense measures in the communities which are surrounded by Area A.

"None of us wants to look out of our windows and see watchtowers and bunkers and we demand that if the IDF needs to implement certain measures they do so on the edge of our communities at the border of our outline plans."

Yesterday's attempt to settle Sebastia was reminiscent of attempts made by Gush Emunim activists in 1974 and 1975, who,

after eight attempts, settled the railway station near Nablus. In 1975 the government reached a compromise with the settlers offering them the army base Kadim instead.

Ahuva Shilo, spokeswoman of the Samaria Regional Council, said the railway station is in Area C and the council had granted the settlers permission to go there yesterday.

"There are plans to open up a museum at the site depicting settlement activity in Samaria. The building belongs to the Jewish Agency's settlement division," she said.

Shortly before the settlers were

ordered to leave the site Shilo said council members were in touch with government officials seeking to receive their support and permission to remain overnight at the site. As army and police officers called on the settlers to disperse, they stood outside the building and conducted prayers.

Regarding Itamar, Shilo said a small group had taken over the hilltop and planned to establish a secular neighborhood at the site. Shilo said that the group had not coordinated with Itamar before going ahead with their plans.

With great sorrow and deep regret we announce the passing of our beloved and esteemed mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

ALICE SASSON

The funeral leaves today at 12 p.m. from the Sasson residence at Rehov Hapigah 41, Bayit Vagan for the Mount of Olives.

Shiva will be at the residence.

With deep pain and sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

ILSE PURLEY

née Wohlfarth

Daughter: Rivka and Amnon Kohn, and grandchildren Brother: Hellmuth Uri Wohlfarth

Sister: Ruth R. Kugelmann née Wohlfarth Family and friends

The funeral took place in Rishon LeZion on Sunday November 22, Kislev 3. Shiva at 5 Rehov Keren Hayesod, Jerusalem

On the shloshim of the passing of our dear

MOSHE LURIA

We will gather at his graveside to unveil his tombstone on Thursday November 26 at 3:30 p.m. at the Nahlat Yitzhak Cemetery

His wife Magda Luria-Stark and the Luria - Stark Families

With deep sorrow we announce the death of

JOY GOLDSCHMIDT

née Friedlander

Our beloved sister-in-law, aunt and great aunt Who passed away on November 20 in Chicago, Ill. May she rest in peace

Ruth and Bruce Rappaport and family Geneva, Switzerland and Tel Aviv, Israel

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

We mourn the death of

RIVA DAMM

who, like her late husband, Dr. Jacob Damm donated her body to science

Benno Gitter Chairman of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University

Conference on: Women's Health

The Israeli and US Health Ministries will be holding a bi-national conference on the subject: Promoting Women's Health - Throughout The Life Cycle

Minister of Health Yehoshua Matza and US Secretary for Health Dr. Donna Shalala will jointly chair the conference. Professionals specializing in women's health will take part in the conference, including physicians, sociologists, media representatives etc.

The conference will take place on December 2 and 3, 1998 at the Hilton Hotel in Jerusalem. The proceedings will be in English.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in the following details in capitals and SEND BY FAX to: Conference Secretariat - Promoting Women's Health, The International Company Ltd. - Fax 03-510-7716

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IN CONTEXT / HERB KEINON

Asked if more money for the

ing.

By NICHAL YUDELMAN



After two and a half hours, the demonstrators moved to the protest tent opposite the prime minister's residence, where a few dozen students are persisting with their hunger strike.

By ARTHUR O'SULLIVAN

Two of Maswada's brothers arrived at the house to try to halt the demolition, but it was only after the entire structure was razed that they succeeded in getting an injunction from the High Court. The IDF Spokesman later put out a statement saying that in

A senior IDF legal expert insists that house demolitions are still an effective deterrent against terrorism, but Palestinians and human rights activists oppose it as collective punishment.

DRIVE CAREFULLY.

DELL WE'RE TALKING BUSINESS!

NEWS

in brief

'NY Times': 10 suicide cultists here

About 10 followers of a Denver-based Christian sect that was reported last month to be on its way here to commit suicide were found here last week, according to yesterday's *New York Times*, quoting Cmdr. Hezi Leder, the police attaché at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. A spokeswoman at the Ministry of Internal Security would neither confirm nor deny the report. The sect, Concerned Christians, has disappeared from Denver together with its leader, Monte Kim Miller.

Elli Wohlgelegen

High Court interprets archeological sites broadly

The High Court yesterday rejected an appeal which would have prevented the Antiquities Authority from declaring an archeological site only on the basis of belief rather than evidence that antiquities exist there. Instead the court decided that it could do so on the basis of "reasonable possibility," even if there is slender evidence, so as to prevent accidental or malicious destruction of antiquities. However it rejected as unjust and illogical the authority's practice of charging property owners for development of the archeological sites on their land. The petition was brought by property owners in Kfar Shmaryahu who wanted to repossess land declared an archeological site in 1944.

Itim

Driver killed by train

A woman was killed yesterday when her car was hit by a train near Kibbutz Neveh Yam. She crossed the tracks although the gate had come down, indicating that a train was coming. The car got stuck on the tracks and the locomotive hit it, crushing the car and dragging it for about a half a kilometer.

Itim

Girl brought to hospital with knife in her back

A 10-year-old girl from Peki'in was to undergo surgery last night at Nahariya Government Hospital to remove a knife lodged in her back. The girl arrived yesterday, along with her father who said that his daughter "fell on the knife." The cause of injury is under investigation.

Itim

Netanyahu meets with Habad

Habad leaders met with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday evening following the recent arrest of a movement activist in Safed suspected of plotting to hurt him. Movement leader Rabbi Aharonov said that while his group opposes the Wye Memorandum, it would continue to express its views through peaceful means.

It was agreed that Netanyahu would meet tomorrow with Yosef Gotnick, who is flying in from Australia. Netanyahu said at the meeting that he respects and admires Habad and rejected attempts to allow a single incident to tarnish the movement's image.

Jerusalem Post Staff and Itim

Another doctorate for Kissinger

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev has announced that it bestowed an honorary doctorate yesterday on former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger in New York for his "extensive efforts to achieve peace and reconciliation among nations." The citation mentioned that the Nobel Peace Prize winner "never wavered in his staunch support of the Jewish people and the State of Israel."

Jerusalem Post Staff

Women's authority pushing mammograms

The Authority for the Advancement of Women in the Prime Minister's Office aims at getting all haredi, Arab, Druze, and Russian and Ethiopian immigrant women 50 to 74 to undergo regular mammograms.

These special groups are least likely to respond to invitations from their health fund for a breast X-ray to detect cancer, said Naomi Liran, director of the four-month-old authority. Liran yesterday chaired the first-ever session women from these sectors aimed at increasing clinical examinations and mammograms among them.

Judy Siegel

Israel now a flower power

Seven of the largest moshav flower growers have won an international competition in Holland, based on several criteria of flower quality. The international jury included two Israelis, who judged selections from around the globe. Israel is one of the main suppliers of flowers in Holland, and leads in terms of variety and quality. This year Israel has exported a record 1.6 million flowers.

Itim

Arson suspected in fire at youth's home

Police suspect that a haredi group called the "Modesty Brigades" is behind the fire at an apartment in Jerusalem's Shmuel Hanavi neighborhood yesterday. The apartment dweller, Ben-Zion Karmi, 17, recently stopped being Orthodox. Police believe the fire was set in an attempt to get Karmi to leave the area, but he told Channel 1 he intends to remain in his charred home.

Itim

Three killed in crash at Shohet intersection

Three people were killed yesterday when a truck crashed into a car at the Shohet junction near Beersheba. The car apparently ignored a stop sign when it entered the intersection, police said. All three fatalities were in the car, whose driver was moderately injured.

Itim

Report on WJRO-Polish Jewry deal 'misleading'

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — The report of a deal with the World Jewish Restitution Organization over \$3 billion in Nazi-looted property is "misleading," the Jewish community of Poland said yesterday, adding there is no role for the Israeli government in the restitution process.

"We never talked with the WJRO about the estimates of the value of the [communal] property that can be returned," said Stanislaw Krajewski, member of the board of the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland.

"Three billion sounds ridiculous," Krajewski said in a telephone interview from Warsaw. "The bulk of the property is 1,000 cemeteries, which are priceless but will never generate money; rather, it requires money for the upkeep."

"To estimate the value of the land covered

by cemeteries is completely misleading," he said. "They assume that everything has been sold and everything will be restored, which is not true."

The dispute is the latest in several years of acrimony over who is entitled to claim former Jewish property in Poland, even as restitution of the property is not yet available for restitution because of the reluctance of the Warsaw government to deal with restitution legislation.

Last year, the WJRO collided with the State Department as well as the Central European Jewish communities when it threatened to oppose the admission of Poland, Romania, and the Czech Republic to NATO unless they returned Jewish property.

According to a report last week in *Ha'aretz*, the WJRO had signed a deal in Warsaw three weeks ago for thousands of

buildings and land that had been owned by Jews before the war.

The ownership would be divided into thirds, with equal shares to the WJRO, the Polish Jewish community, and to organizations the two would choose, *Ha'aretz* reported.

It also reported that an unnamed Israeli source said some property would eventually end up in Israeli government hands and that the government would be involved in the talks.

However, Krajewski said, "We have never discussed or heard that anything could belong to the Israeli government."

In April, the WJRO and the Polish Jewish community signed an agreement in which they agreed to create a joint foundation, whose first aim is "to support the Jewish religious communities of Poland."

The WJRO has no special agreement with

the Polish government, which recognizes only the Union of Jewish Communities as the government's partner in restitution.

There was no "breakthrough" in the talks with the WJRO earlier this month, Krajewski said. "There has been some progress in our discussion of the foundation's constitution and how to make it possible for us, the Jewish community, to be independent without financial assistance from abroad."

But the fact is that the process of negotiations hasn't been finished," Krajewski was disheartened and annoyed by the *Ha'aretz* report, which seemed to undercut the limited progress that has been made.

"We always thought that the WJRO negotiators meant it when they said that the money will be left in Poland for the cemeteries, renovations, taking care of the legacy of Polish Jews, and helping the Jewish communities to survive."

Hadassah to offer anonymous HIV testing

By JUDY SIEGEL

Hadassah-University Hospital is beginning anonymous testing for HIV, the AIDS virus, twice a week at its Rehov Strauss clinic — despite the fact that the Health Ministry strongly disapproves of HIV testing without taking the person's identity card number.

"This is a publicity stunt by Hadassah," declared Dr. Zvi Ben-Yishai, head of the ministry's supreme steering committee on AIDS. The World Health Organization does not recommend anonymous testing. Since people found to be positive undergo therapy with the 'cocktail' of anti-AIDS drugs anyway, there's no reason for them not to identify themselves. A small clinic run by the Israel AIDS Task Force in Tel Aviv that doesn't take ID numbers gets only a handful of customers.

But Dr. Shlomo Ma'ayan, head of Hadassah's AIDS clinic, countered that it is "no gimmick. Our aim is to increase the number of people — especially those in high-risk groups such as homosexuals, prostitutes, foreign workers, and drug addicts — to come for testing."

"Although the medical system is very careful about not revealing identities of HIV carriers, many people are still reluctant to go for tests if they have to identify themselves, and they will stay away...."

"According to the Tel Aviv clinic's experience, the very great majority of those tested anonymously come back for the answer. We did not invent anything; anonymous testing has proven itself in the US and Europe. There may be a small percentage who test out positive and the staff can't reach them for follow-up, but this is more than outweighed by people who would otherwise not come in for a blood test and not get the drug 'cocktail' in time."

The Rehov Strauss clinic will be open for anonymous HIV testing on Tuesdays between 6 and 9 p.m. and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Hadassah received a donation from a Swiss philanthropist to pay salaries of staffers running the service, which will begin Sunday, the week of World AIDS Day (December 1). The test costs NIS 50.



Prize-winning artists

Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein (right) examines works by Boris Luchiansky, one of four artists awarded the minister's prize for immigrant artists at the Israel Museum yesterday. Luchiansky, who immigrated from Kazakhstan in 1990 and is seen here with his wife, won the NIS 15,000 first prize; the others, who each won NIS 5,000, are Kim Tukatch (Ukraine, 1990), Sima Konson (Russia, 1988), and Boris Leker (Ukraine, 1990).

(Yitzhak Elhanan/Scoop 80)

Mordechai hopeful of talks with Syria

By DAVID RUDGE

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai last night revealed that there have been contacts between Syria and "other elements" though the Syrians are not currently interested in resuming talks.

Mordechai, who visited Northern Command headquarters last night after a tour of IDF positions in the Golan Heights, also reiterated his call to the Lebanese government to reach a security arrangement with Israel that would change the deployment in the security zone.

He stressed that the government was continuing with its initiatives

and "new ways of thinking" to solve the Lebanon issue.

Meanwhile, the IDF was constantly employing new methods for striking at Hizbullah and other organizations operating against the IDF and the South Lebanon Army (SLA). "I suggest that those behind the terrorists carefully consider their support for them because if the situation deteriorates their interests could also be harmed," said Mordechai.

Mordechai said that both Northern Command and General Command had a "free hand" in the ongoing war against Hizbullah and other organizations. "They are

doing this with a great deal of success though not everything reaches the media and makes headlines," said Mordechai.

Fighting continued yesterday with long-range mortar attacks on several SLA positions, mainly in the western sector of the security zone. There were no casualties and the IDF and SLA returned fire.

Amal, which did not carry out operations all this month until Friday when it launched simultaneous mortar attacks against 11 IDF and SLA positions throughout the zone, was also believed to be responsible for the shooting yesterday.

IAF warplanes struck targets near Zepkin village north of the zone in response to the mortar fire. The IDF spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits, and all the planes returned safely to their bases.

Danna Harman adds: Tourism Minister Moshe Katzav asked Mordechai at yesterday's cabinet meeting what had become of the initiative to leave Lebanon. Mordechai replied that the United States — which is expected to help broker the deal — has been busy with Wye lately, but that with the conclusion of the accord, there was hope the initiative would now move forward.

Israeli airline asks to land in Gaza Airport opening ceremony

By LAMIA LAHOU

An Israeli airline has asked for permission to land at Gaza's Dahlan airport for tomorrow's opening ceremony, Mohammed Dahlan, the PA's Preventive Security chief said yesterday.

Dahlan told *The Jerusalem Post* that he did not have the name of the airline. Israel's largest carriers, El Al and Arkia, have denied asking for a landing permit. But Israeli sources confirmed that there is such a request by a private Israeli company, which wants to send a plane flying under an

Israeli flag.

Dahlan said the Palestinian Authority has given its approval to the Israeli carrier to land and added that it was for the IDF to decide whether to allow the Israeli plane to land. Israelis are not allowed to use the airport for security reasons.

According to Dahlan, the PA expects 10 flights from Europe and the Arab world to land tomorrow. Egypt, Morocco, Spain, Holland and Germany are among the countries which intend to send planes to Gaza for Tuesday's opening ceremony. Fayez Zaidan, the director of

the Palestinian airport, said eight flights have confirmed their intention to land in Gaza, among them the plane of the European Union special envoy Miguel Moratinos. "Israel and Germany are the two countries who have not given their final answer yet," he said.

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סדרה מן הארץ

US 1997 crime rate lowest since '74

By JAMES VICINI

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The US crime rate kept falling in 1997, hitting the lowest level in 23 years, as police reported fewer murders and robberies, the FBI said yesterday.

The FBI said in a 420-page report detailing final US crime statistics for 1997 that there were nearly 13.2 million serious offenses last year, marking the sixth straight year the number of crimes has gone down.

The overall crime rate of 4,923 offenses for every 100,000 US residents decreased 3 percent from the 1996 rate and 13 percent from a decade ago. It represented the lowest level since 1974.

Murders and robberies showed the steepest declines, each falling 7 percent in 1997 from 1996.

For other crimes, assaults edged down by 1 percent, rapes were slightly lower, and motor vehicle theft dropped by 3 percent; while burglaries, larcenies, and thefts decreased 2 percent.

Report: IRA holding secret convention

DUBLIN (Reuters) - IRA guerrillas are holding a secret weekend conference that might try to ease a disarmament row which is stalling the Northern Irish peace process, an Irish newspaper reported.

The Sunday Tribune said the outlawed Irish Republican Army was meeting to review a truce that it is observing in a long war against British rule in the province. It said the extremists might also debate whether to give their Sinn Fein political arm a "per hand in defusing an impasse over the fate of the IRA's vast hidden arsenal."



President Bill Clinton poses for a picture with US soldiers near the demilitarized zone between South and North Korea yesterday. (Reuters)

Clinton warns North Korea against nuclear ambitions

By TERENCE HUNT

SEOUL (AP) - After warning North Korea to forsake nuclear weapons, President Bill Clinton yesterday praised American troops for remaining vigilant near the world's most heavily guarded border where tensions are on the rise.

"Our ability to succeed in promoting peace is uniquely due to the fact that we can back up our diplomatic efforts when necessary with military strength and that depends on you," Clinton told cheering US sailors, soldiers, and marines stationed at Osan Air Base.

He said that although recent US attention has focused on the threat from Iraq, the tensions with North Korea because of its sus-

pected nuclear ambitions "remain an area of great concern."

"Lately signs of danger have intensified with incursions from the North, provocative missile tests and the question of a suspected underground [nuclear] installation," Clinton said. "So we must remain vigilant. And thanks to you we are."

Standing before a red banner bearing the "Black Cat" emblem of the 5th Reconnaissance Squadron, which flies U-2 spy planes, Clinton addressed a crowd of at least 1,000 military personnel and their families.

Earlier, Clinton helicoptered to the Korean Training Center (13 km.) from the tense Demilitarized Zone. He shook hands with tank crews, pinned a promotion on a private, and led troops in singing

happy birthday to a sergeant major. He then joined soldiers for lunch.

Clinton spoke Saturday of a "strong suspicion" that an underground construction project in the communist North that is barred from US inspection is nuclear related.

Saying the US has an "unshakable alliance" with Seoul, Clinton urged North Korea to seize "an historic opportunity" for peace extended by South Korean President Kim Dae-jung.

Kim said North Korea "is cautiously but noticeably taking measures to increase interaction and cooperation." But Kim, said he and Clinton agreed that "we will not tolerate any possible attempt of North Korea to proliferate nuclear weapons."

Documents row keeps Iraq crisis simmering

By ALISTAIR LYON

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - A row over documents demanded by UN weapons inspectors is keeping the Iraq crisis warm, but for now Washington is firing words, not missiles at Baghdad.

"It's still touch and go, very dicey," said one senior Asian diplomat.

The US has warned it remains ready to strike if Iraq fails to cooperate with the inspectors, but the latest dispute on documents sought by their chief, Richard Butler, has not yet brought the crisis to boiling point.

US National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said yesterday that Washington is waiting for Iraq's last word on the documents.

"Mr. Butler has said that their response is not satisfactory. He's gone back to them and asked for further information and we hope and expect to get that," Berger said.

Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz accused Butler of trying to give the US an excuse to unleash its assault or of seeking to undermine a promised Security Council review of Iraqi compliance with UN resolutions.

"He is either creating a superficial pretext to justify the American aggression or he is trying to confuse and undermine the comprehensive review," Aziz told reporters.

Despite the verbal clashes, monitors of the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) charged with scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction have been back at work for the past five days without complaining publicly of any Iraqi obstruction.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's special envoy Prakash Shah is due back in Baghdad today ahead of the expected arrival of UNSCOM experts who may spring surprise inspections designed to test Iraq's latest promise of compliance.

Iraq narrowly avoided US-led air attacks last weekend by rescinding its October 31 ban on cooperation with UNSCOM. That enabled UNSCOM staff, UN aid workers, and diplomats who had been evacuated as a precaution, to return to Baghdad.

Butler then demanded documents ranging from details of chemical and biological agents Iraq used in its 1980-88 war with Iran to personal diaries of Iraqi officers.

Iraq has replied with a series of objections, saying some of the documents are irrelevant to UNSCOM's mandate, some do not exist, and others have been destroyed or lost.

"It seems ridiculous on the face of it, haggling over documents which for Iraq fall in the ambit of national security. But Butler is pressing the advantage he has gained recently

and seeking unfettered access," the diplomat said. "This controversy and others likely to follow are symptomatic of the deep distrust between the two sides."

Baghdad has acknowledged putting itself on the wrong side of world opinion by blocking the inspectors' work.

But it argues that the United States and Britain have now tipped their hand and violated the UN Charter by openly calling for President Saddam Hussein's overthrow and stepping up.

Aziz also said that Arab states who blamed Iraq for failing to heed UN demands had damaged the Arab nation.

"Those who held Iraq responsible have harmed themselves and hurt their national and pan-Arab interests. They have disavowed their brother country which is under threat of unjust aggression," he told a seminar on Arab solidarity with Iraq.

Egypt, Syria, and six Gulf Arab states left Iraq isolated this month by telling Iraq bluntly to resume cooperation with UN weapons inspectors or face the consequences.

"Iraq is not the only country that is targeted," Aziz said. "What threatens Iraq threatens the whole Arab world. The threat today involves everybody... There isn't a single Arab country that will be spared."

Moslem mobs slay six, burn churches in Jakarta rioting

By GEOFF SPENCER

JAKARTA (AP) - Deep-seated ethnic and religious tensions erupted in the capital of crisis-ridden Indonesia yesterday when Moslem mobs attacked or burned at least 11 Christian churches and then went on a riot spree.

Police said six people were killed in violence that broke out less than a kilometer from the presidential palace, a little more

than a week after deadly clashes between students and security personnel also triggered rioting.

Troops fired shots and volleys of tear gas to break up rock-throwing crowds. Armored personnel carriers rolled down streets littered with broken glass. The violence subsided by mid-evening.

Most of the dead were stabbed and some of the bodies were mutilated. Dozens were reported injured in fighting between the local Moslem

majority and Christian migrants originally from the eastern Indonesian city of Ambon.

Moslem residents said they retaliated when a group of Ambonese threw rocks at a local mosque and smashed some windows.

Four churches were burned and seven trashed, officials said.

A gambling hall was set afire and a Catholic girls' school near the city's cathedral was ransacked and partly burned.

Attention!

Four Million Hebrew-Israelites of Ethiopia Do Not Want to Come to Israel

Felege Guignon International is encouraging the Israeli Government and all Jewish institutions, agencies and organizations to support and assist in every way possible the aliya of the remaining 16,000 Ethiopian Jews, including those in Quara, as specified by various Ethiopian-Jewish organizations. We at Felege Guignon wish to state for the record that although we actively represent and recognize the 4,000,000 Hebrew-Israelites living in the Gojjam region of Ethiopia, who are also referred to as the Orits (the Guignon Semitic nation that was documented by countless Jewish and non-Jewish historians, including the famous geographer Leo Africanus who wrote of an independent Israelite Kingdom in Guignon which he called *The Land of the Hebrews*), we do not seek any rights for mass immigration from the Israeli Government, nor do the 4,000,000 Hebrew-Israelites desire to leave their hereditary land of Guignon. This position has been clearly stated by Dr. Muse Tegegne (International Chairman of the Felege Guignon), and was published in his book "Stigma," and was presented to the United Nations. Any attempt, therefore, by Israeli or Jewish leaders to use the "possible immigration" of the four million Hebrews as an excuse to deny or delay immigration rights to the 16,000 Ethiopian Jews should be viewed as serious and vicious propaganda designed to conceal their true prejudicial motives for refusing to recognize the 16,000 Ethiopian Jews.

The Ethiopian Orits-Israelites of Gojjam (Guignon), furthermore, definitely do not wish to join the Jewish people, as they have no interest whatsoever in the practices of Rabbinical Judaism, but rather have lineage Israelite identity which can only be maintained through the ancient pre-Talmudic practices of their ancestors.

The Ethiopian-Hebrew-Israelites of Guignon can also be found throughout East Africa where they are known as Tutsis. The flag of the Tutsi dominated country of Burundi still bears the Magen David. In South Africa the Ethiopian-Hebrews are called Lembas. Lemba is the name of a city which can be located on the map of ancient Judea.

1. The Ethiopian Hebrew-Israelites have no desire for mass immigration, but rather seek to have their Israelite identity acknowledged by the Israeli government and the international community. This identity, as was stated above, is in no way linked to Judaism or to the Jewish People. They wish to maintain a diaspora identity and a relationship with the land of Israel and with those Jews to whom they are related. This bonded identity between their land of habitation and their spiritual center in Israel reflects their descendancy from both King Solomon (Israel) and the Queen of Sheba (Guignon).
2. We are calling on Israel and the international community to condemn and to take action against any anti-Israelite violence which is carried out by non-Israelites throughout Africa. This includes the genocide of over 500,000 Tutsi-Hebrew Israelites in Rwanda.
3. The Ethiopian Orits-Hebrews seek full rights and religious freedom which includes the right of return to and the practice of their ancient Hebrew faith, free of the influences of Christianity, Islam and Judaism.
4. We at Felege Guignon are also demanding that we and/or our cause not be used as propaganda tools by those who wish to deny Ethiopian Jews the right to immigrate to Israel.
5. The Hebrew-Israelites of Guignon, however, do have several urgent humanitarian issues that must be addressed, the most serious of which are the current typhoid and malaria epidemics sweeping the region. In this regard, we are requesting that Israel and the international community assist Felege Guignon in a life-saving mission in Guignon.

All those interested in obtaining more information about the Hebrew-Israelites of Guignon and/or wish to offer humanitarian assistance can contact:

Dr. Muse Tegegne (International Chairman Felege Guignon)
4 Charmilles Ch-1203 Geneva, Switzerland.
Tel. 41-22-34-56655 Fax. 41-22-34-40-198
E-Mail info.@gihon.org
Web page Guignon.org

In Israel:
Itshaq David Israel (International Director and Israel Representative Felege Guignon)
136/11 Rehov Herzl, Kiryat Malachi, Israel 83013
Tel. 08-850-6141 or at:
Felege Guignon Activity Center, 39 (112) Rehov Weizman, Kiryat Malachi, Israel
83011. Tel. 08-850-6058



FELEGE GUIGNON INTERNATIONAL

פלייגה גיהון (ע"ר)

'Spielberg's list' on CD-ROM

By JON KALISH

At a secret location in Los Angeles, the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation has started making the videotaped testimonies of tens of thousands of Holocaust survivors accessible by computer.

With \$15 million worth of computer and video hardware donated by companies such as Sony and Silicon Graphics, and free access to a high speed fiber optic network worth tens of millions more, the first of what will eventually be 100,000 hours of heart-wrenching eyewitness accounts of the Nazi genocide is being distributed initially to a handful of repositories in the United States and Israel.

"We want to make this material available in a way that allows you virtually instantaneous access to it," said Michael Berenbaum, executive director of the foundation that was started by Steven Spielberg from his Oscar-winning movie about the Holocaust, *Schindler's List*. "We are essentially documenting the experience of the Holocaust as described by thousands of people, phrase-by-phrase, moment-by-moment, event-by-event, person-by-person," Berenbaum said.

The first CD-ROM produced from oral histories videotaped by the foundation was unveiled in New York recently. Spielberg and three Holocaust survivors demonstrated it for a group of predominantly black and Hispanic high school students.

"It is our duty to tell you about it again and again," said Sylvia Grohs-Martin, who was active in the Dutch resistance and survived Auschwitz. "That CD-ROM will show your children, too. And your grandchildren. Long after we are gone, you're going to see my face."

"This is the medium that young people are most familiar with. They absorb it the most. I feel this is the future of all education for the 21st century," Spielberg said of the CD-ROM.

The massive video archive created by the foundation in Los Angeles is arguably 21st century technology. It is searchable because the foundation is spending years cataloguing survivor testimonies. The first of five repositories connected to the archive is the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles.

Next year the archive will be accessible at Yale University's Fortunoff Video Archive and at Holocaust museums in Washington, New York and Jerusalem. The material, which will also be used to make educational software and documentaries, is being made available to scholars before the public.

"This is going to change the way research on the history of the Holocaust is done," said Margaret Myers, a history professor at the University of Indiana at

South Bend.

"What's so exciting is the amount of oral histories the foundation has collected. I will have access to testimonies of survivors in the former Soviet Union who I never would have been able to get to," said Myers, who is writing a book about displaced persons after the Second World War.

"The amount of storage we have and what we're accessing is comparable to what you'd find at oil companies or maybe the Internal Revenue Service," Sam Gushman, the foundation's 29-year-old director of technology, said during a tour of the technical facilities.

Gushman pointed to two huge purple boxes the size of refrigerators, explaining that one was a "very large computer" and the other was a casing for what was essentially the operation's RAM, a whopping 200 gigabytes of memory.

Nearby, in a small glass room, were a robot and towers holding hundreds of video cassettes with the survivor testimony. "Our archive is 150 terabytes," Gushman said as the robot searched bar codes on the video cassettes to retrieve a requested testimony. "That's the equivalent of 150,000 gigabytes or 100 million floppy disks!"

Two trailers on the foundation's site have 40 work stations with video tape players and computers for cataloguing the testimonies, more than 48,000 of which have been recorded so far. There are 45 cataloguers who work two shifts that begin at 7:30 a.m. and run past midnight. It takes about two days for a cataloguer to go through a typical two-hour testimony.

"The process is very detailed," Kim Beauchamp, director of cataloguing, said. "It requires you to watch the story, break it down into little pieces, summarize each of those pieces and apply a controlled vocabulary to contextualize the content of that story. We have a vocabulary of about 10,000 terms that we use to index the testimony. That enables people to search for testimony about a given person, subject, event or place."

"You hear stories that are so beyond what you're able to comprehend," Beauchamp said. "There are moments where it is very difficult to listen, and I've seen people break down in tears because a story is so moving. And there have been days when I've seen people walk away high as a kite because of some triumphant story they heard."

Beauchamp says about 60 people have moved to Los Angeles and at last three years, expressly to work in the cataloguing department, some from as far away as Greece. At least five people in the department are children of Holocaust survivors.

Chaim Singer-Franks, a 31-year-old supervisor whose father is a survivor, said that as soon as he heard about the job he decided: "I think this is where I need to go." (Reuters)

On the track of the techno-bigots

US law enforcers are using a 'Hate Directory' of more than 300 Web sites, newsgroups, chat rooms and bulletin boards preaching violence to keep tabs on the hatemongers. Michael James reports

The conference room in Ocean City, Maryland, is jammed with more than 100 people, all peering at an enlarged computer screen displaying an ominous image: a man in a white hood holding a pump shotgun.

It's one of dozens of Ku Klux Klan sites on the World Wide Web, but the people studying it aren't hatemongers. They're federal agents, state police and detectives from law enforcement agencies throughout the Mid-Atlantic.

"Just as hate groups can use these Web sites to their advantage, we can use them to ours," says Raymond A. Franklin, a police training instructor who teaches a crash course in high-tech hate.

"It's free information. These people are going to tell us what they're doing, and we don't even have to send out an investigator. Just click on it at your desktop."

Franklin, assistant director of Maryland's Police and Correctional Training Commission, tracks racists, anarchists, secessionists, neo-Nazis, gay bashers, religious radicals, and anyone else with a hateful ax to grind.

His "Hate Directory," one of the nation's most comprehensive listings of such organizations, lists more than 300 Web sites, newsgroups, chat rooms and electronic bulletin boards that deliver electronic messages of violence or hatred.

"A lot of times these aren't just rednecks in the basement with a personal computer," Franklin says. "We are talking about very serious technological endeavors here. The Internet has given people a very powerful weapon to use for hate."

JUST ask 45-year-old Don Black of West Palm Beach, Fla., a computer consultant who manages Web pages for Stormfront — his own white nationalist movement — plus sites for two dozen other white supremacist causes. His own site, mirrored on a Russian server and available in Spanish as well as English, is regarded by academicians as one of the most popular racist sites, with more than 1 million visitors and counting.

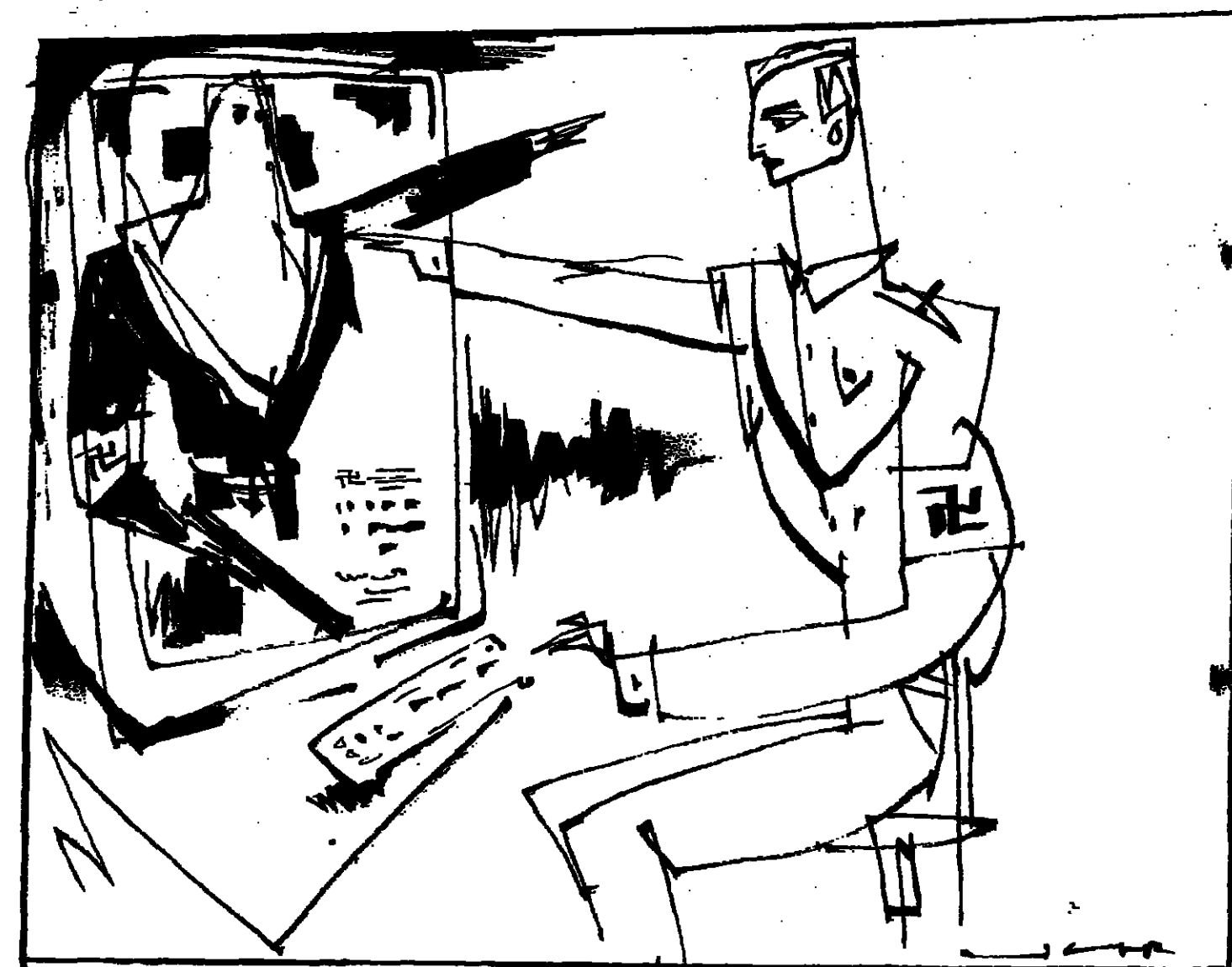
"The political fashion today is the eradication of all vestiges of white culture, and we believe white people throughout the world must unite and stand up for their rights," Black says.

"Our purpose with the Web site is to provide information, and for those who are attracted to our point of view, to offer them an online community."

That community includes an online "Aryan Dating Page" that touts itself as a listing of available singles who must be "heterosexual, white gentiles only."

Concern about hate on the Internet — and its implications for crime and domestic terrorism — has been growing as steadily as the use of computers in American homes.

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles reports that the number of Web pages put up by white supremacists and other racist groups has increased about 300 percent in the last year.



Mainstream computer use and easy access to the World Wide Web have had an energizing effect on the racist activities.

In Southern California's San Fernando Valley last month, vandals who defaced a synagogue painted on its walls the Web address of the National Alliance, a nationwide racist group.

EXTREMISTS have tried to spread their message through mass media for years. But they have often been blocked because mainstream outlets consider their messages in poor taste, and most groups don't have money to buy advertising or air time.

Those problems have disappeared with the arrival of the Internet, Franklin says. "For a relatively inexpensive price tag, you can have a worldwide audience," he says.

The Internet also provides a way to broadcast audio and even video a lot cheaper and more frequently than a radio or TV station. It really has gotten so you need a score card to keep track of every hate group that's out there using the Internet now.

A way to filter out hate

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, which recently released a report entitled "The Web of Hate: Extremists Exploit the Internet," has developed the first software filter designed to block hate sites.

The software is due to be released this month, said Jordan Kessler, a research analyst at ADL who specializes in studying hate on the Internet.

Once installed on a home computer, the program will block all sites that the ADL has deemed to be directing hatred.

"The ADL is a strong believer

in free speech and the right of every citizen to express his or her views on the Web," Kessler said. "But we also have the right to protect ourselves and our children from hate groups. We don't want these groups to be able to recruit and spread their message through the Internet."

For information on the Anti-Defamation League's upcoming Web filter, visit www.adl.org.

Internet.

The group's Web page displayed an artist's rendition of the bombing of a local human relations council office and denounced one of the council's leaders as a "race traitor" who should beware.

Stormfront's Black is named in the Pennsylvania complaint because he is believed to have been involved with ALPHA HQ's Web site — an allegation he denies. He says the attempt to shut down the ALPHA HQ is indicative of aggressive tactics by those who he says are stifling free speech.

"We have problems all the time, both from hacker attacks and from denial of service by servers," says Black, who learned about computers during a two-year federal prison term for his part in a bizarre plot to take over the Caribbean island of Dominica, and turn it into a base of operations for a white nationalist movement.

Franklin says the Web has also provided techno-bigots with improved communications — including private, password-protected intranets secured by encryption software.

"For only a few dollars, you can have encryption that exceeds the national encryption standard," he says. "The National Security Agency couldn't break through some of these hate intranets."

Franklin's Web site can be found at <http://www.bcpl.net/rfranklin/hate-dir.htm> (The Baltimore Sun)

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Two halves don't make a whole

Chris Isaak's devil is a woman

By DAVID BAUDER

The scene: his brother's loft in Los Angeles, 4 a.m., windows open on a hot night to catch the hint of a breeze. Sleep is fitful, so Chris Isaak lies in bed listening to a Mexican station on the radio.

Suddenly he hears a voice that stuns him, heartbreaking enough to impress even this master of melancholy. He has to have that record. He doesn't know the name of the song. He doesn't know the name of the singer. He doesn't even know the call letters of the radio station. That doesn't dissuade him.

Isaak picks up the phone and begins calling radio stations.

At the third one, he pleads with a disc jockey to tell him everything the station played during the past half hour. He'll buy all the records, just to find that voice again.

When the bewildered disc jockey balks, Isaak tries another approach, singing the only English line of the song that he remembers. The disc jockey answers immediately: "Maya Rodriguez."

That's the easy part. Isaak spends the next day searching through more than a dozen record stores before finally finding a Maya Rodriguez record.

"I bring her music when I'm making a movie," he said. "Whenever I'm in a dark mood and I want to cry, she just does it every time."

It's the kind of obsession known only to those who love, and live for, music. This Californian has always been that way.

Seven years after the brooding *Wicked Game* put Isaak on the map as a Roy Orbison for the 1990s, he's still making albums with the kick of rock 'n' roll and enough sadness to make Maya Rodriguez proud.

A day before he flies to Australia, Isaak, 42, pauses in a New York record company office to talk about his seventh album, *Speak of the Devil*.

Are you speaking of any devil in particular?

Women. The chested devil — the woman. The type of woman who, when she walks by, you'd be talking to your friend about your pancreatic cancer surgery and suddenly you see his eyes glaze over and as you're talking, his head swivels past. The show completely stops for a beautiful woman.

You've never hesitated to draw from your life experiences when writing songs. Have you ever regretted it?

No. When I've put things from my life in my songs I've tried not to put things in that somebody else

would find unappealing about their life. I don't write about my ex-girlfriends. I wouldn't put something mean-spirited about them in a song.

On this record, I have names on there of people I've gone out with. I don't think they were mentioned in any way offensive: "Tyree, what a team we could have made." It was somebody I went out with long ago and she probably never thinks of me at all. But it's a way of me saying, "I haven't forgotten you."

If I've got mean-spirited things to say, I just say it on the tour bus.

You don't like to talk too much about your music. Why?

It's not my favorite thing to do. Usually, I make jokes about things when people ask me about music. Because when you really think about how you write songs, there's no easy way to tell people. It's either so simple or so complex that it's ineffable. You can't say it.

The other problem is — besides not being able to describe that process very well — is that when you do try to describe it, you sound like a jerk.

You wrote a song with ("My Heart Will Go On" writer) Dianne Warren. How did that happen and how did it work out?

I was just trying to do different things. If you're a painter and you've always painted with a brush and you want to do something new, grab a can of spray paint.

I don't do a lot of writing with other people, and I wanted to try doing it. But I didn't want to do it with someone who writes like I do. If they write minor key, introspective music, if it's at all in the same realm of what I do, what do I need that for?

I thought if we could get one of those big, soaring choruses with my minor key verses, it would be a good combination, which is kind of what we ended up getting.

Do you listen to a lot of other music?

Yes, I do. I've listened to Beck a lot in the last year or two. He's fun because he's combined country and blues to rap and elements of hip-hop. You're just going, what is this? He's throwing a lot of stuff together and that's really fantastic.

They had a guy who used to do it like that — Elvis. He put together country and blues and made something new.

I like the Verve, they had a very good album. I bought it for the single and I stayed for the whole movie. I looked at (singer Richard Ashcroft's) picture, if we were at a party, me and him would probably be razzing in the bean dip. He looks like he'd be a troublemaker. But looks are deceiving. (AP)



Gwyneth Paltrow carries herself with an appealing blend of poise and believable insecurity.



Movie Review

By Adina Hoffman

The romantic comedy is an endangered genre. It's not that filmmakers have stopped cranking out light love-story movies, or that audiences have given up on the form. Hardly: Hollywood, especially, continues to turn out warmed-over boy-meets-

fashion model). The new British picture, *Sliding Doors*, approaches the problem from a different angle, and attempts to restore a sense of mystery and magic by fresh narrative means. (The film also invents the aforementioned hair-color-coding of the sparring female leads and less blonde Gwyneth Paltrow be the thoughtful heroine; Jeanne Tripplehorn plays the part of her dark and catty rival.) The method adopted by writer/director Peter Howitt sounds complicated, though it's simple enough: he introduces us to Helen (Paltrow), a fashionable London publicist who lives with her aspiring novelist boyfriend, Gerry (John Lynch), and who, in the film's opening scenes, gets herself fired from work.

As she runs to catch the tube, the picture suddenly splits down the middle, and we find ourselves watching two romantic comedies for the price of one. In an otherworldly instant, Helen fragments into two distinct characters: one just misses her train and the other jumps on as the door slams shut. In plain terms, we watch her parallel lives unfolding, as one Helen goes home to discover Gerry in bed with another woman (Tripplehorn), and the other Helen takes a cab home, just missing the discovery of Gerry's betrayal. This Helen continues her relationship with her two-timing boyfriend while the other meets a talkative Scotsman (John Hannah) on the tube, and cautiously begins a new romance.

Until the very end, when her two existences collide, these dual versions of Helen's tale take turns at center stage and exist on equal footing, as if they were alternate drafts of a short story. Their simultaneous unfolding also manages to account for that sense of *what if* which is universal though also especially potent for women who may wonder what would have happened if they chose to have a career or if they decided to have a family instead.

Sliding Doors, like the conceit that informs it, is both charming and dangerously slight. The film relies on this sliver-thin literary premise to propel it along, and while Howitt often manages to infuse the action with a breathless sense of fantastical possibility — Helen's a yuppie with a doppelgänger, after all — the proceedings sometimes also become a bit strained. Neither one of her lives is remarkable enough to warrant a movie of its own, and as Howitt weaves the two halves together, the film occasionally threatens to devolve into a mechanical exercise.

SLIDING DOORS

Written and directed by Peter Howitt. Hebrew title: *Dinat Mitzvat*. 95 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested. With Gwyneth Paltrow, John Hannah, John Lynch, Jeanne Tripplehorn.

girl stories, in hopes of somehow recapturing that old flirtatious spark.

The cultural problems, though, run deep. The sexual revolution and feminism, while altogether welcome on many other fronts, dealt a fairly serious blow to screen romance, as for many years scriptwriters and directors were left clueless about how to mesh the demands of a basically retrograde set-up (no matter what else she aspired to, the heroine's main goal was always to Get the Guy) with the more complex reality of most women's lives. And of course the first thing to go was that crucial sense of wonder.

In the last few years, several films have emerged that address this problem head on. *My Best Friend's Wedding* and *The Truth About Cats and Dogs*, for instance, both managed to juggle ambitious, slightly neurotic female characters (Julia Roberts's restaurant critic and Janeane Garofalo's radio-talk-show-hostess/veterinarian) with a strong dose of romantic longing. These films worked so well in part because they acknowledged directly the difficulty of having a picture-perfect love life and a serious career at one and the same time. Interestingly, they also both relied on the complicating presence of a more stereotypical — and blonde! — female foil (Cameron Diaz's ditzy heiress, Uma Thurman's ditzy

TheaterNetto's comedy with a serious heart

By HELEN KAYE

Award-winning actor Ron Campbell's latest resume lists the Habimah Theater, and he hasn't even been here yet. He's coming though.

Campbell is one of three English language performers in International TheaterNetto which is at the Habimah and Jerusalem theaters from December 2-4.

The other two actors are Britain's Steven Berkoff with *The Desires*, a collage of Shakespearean heavies, and Tim Balme, a darkly handsome sensation from New Zealand, whose show, *Jimmy Costello* is based on the true story of a wily petty criminal.

Campbell's play is *The Thousandth Night*, a monodrama by Carol Wolf, which she wrote especially for him after she had seen him play 28 different parts in a ridiculous, Theatrical Company version of Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*.

A comedy with a serious heart, *The Thousandth Night* is set in a railway station in occupied France. The year is 1943, and all the actors in the company of which Guy de Bonheur was a member, have been arrested or disappeared. Only Guy is left and he has tried to escape the train that is taking him to Buchenwald. Caught, he bargains for his life by offering to play the troupe's version of the Arabian Nights, and to play all 38 characters, a virtuoso tour de force which

won Campbell/Bonheur a Fringe First in London and a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award.

We, the audience, are the 'gendarmes' for whom he plays and the characters range from Sheherazade herself as played by 'company member' Lisette Rolande to Ali Baba's wife, not to mention incidents like a desert wind and a donkey. A donkey?

"Being an actor, you have to make an ass of yourself," Campbell has said, "especially this particular actor and this particular role. We're using 1943, but we could have set it anywhere, at any time because the issues continue, of oppression, of human rights. I never thought I'd be doing a play that takes such a moral stance. It's difficult to make moral decisions in this world."

Yet *The Thousandth Night* makes its point through laughter, "because laughter opens people, so when the play turns serious, the audience is open to it."

"It's a moving play," says director Jessica Kubzansky, "because the character starts out as a coward who'll basically do anything to save his skin, and in the end he finds a sense of self and dignity. One man shows are very difficult, but this is a real play. It moves forward. It's not anecdotal."

"The character's journey is the realization that in the end, his choice is inevitable," Campbell interjects, and adds "I don't think that the play exploits the Holocaust. I agree with Roberto Benigni [the

film director of the Cannes winner, *Life Is Beautiful*], who said that the Holocaust belongs to everybody in that it's one of the most profound chapters in our history."

This is the second production, and we do it because it keeps calling us. [The first production] was in 1993 and we did it all over the US, in London and at Edinburgh. After one of the performances in Edinburgh some German students came up to us and said 'you have to do this in Berlin, because it's happening again'. We haven't been to Berlin though," says Campbell.

The success of *The Thousandth Night* "brought me a lot of attention, but for the stage, not film and TV," and that's fine with Campbell because although there has been quite a lot of film and TV work, the stage was and remains his first love. Live theater, he says, "is always happening right now, and there's something tremendously exciting about that for me."



Ron Campbell

at a mental institution where today, Campbell conducts drama workshops with the patients. His father was a TV producer "and I practically grew up on the set of *Gilligan's Island*. My father said, you can become an actor, but I'll break every bone in your body."

"My grandmother was a Scot who read Shakespeare to me from the age of five, and when I was eight she took me to see Richard Kiley in *Man of Laramie*. At the end, I thought that Kiley really has died on the stage and I got hysterical, so Grandma took me backstage to meet Kiley, and I thought, hey, this is great, and it was then that I was hooked."

Campbell went to UCLA, but didn't graduate, preferring instead to go off to Europe where he made his living for two years as a street

mime, a demanding stint that exercised to the full Campbell's physical abilities, ingenuity, stamina and imagination, the same qualities that have earned him 13 Dramalogue Awards among the many others that punctuate his career. He's also a fight choreographer, an archer, and a horseman.

Campbell has his own theater company, the 15-year-old *The Actors Gang* which is based in Santa Monica. When we spoke he was busy with final rehearsals for *The Mummified Monkey* in which he plays one of two grave robbers who get more than they bargained for when they encounter a hermit in a crypt.

He's been a working actor for 18 years. His favorites are physical roles, Shakespeare and "characters who are acting, like Richard III and Iago. I think the reason that I've been doing theater so long is because to me it's as important as breathing. Doing a play like *The Thousandth Night* is like life itself."

"I play each character fully, sometimes as many as five at a time, which allows me to play with time itself. It's a real sweat fest, and tests my mettle as much as any character I've ever played."

Kubzansky has relatives in Israel and first visited here in 1975, but it's the first time here for Campbell. Doing the play here gives it "a very different resonance. I welcome the opportunity to do it for fresh eyes and with intent, because this is a piece for the heart."

A mirror to Beethoven's spiritual growth

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Many pianists throughout the years have tried — more or less successfully — to perform and record Ludwig van Beethoven's 32 piano sonatas. The various recordings reveal a lot about both the composer and the interpreters of his music.

Now the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv (Shtriker St.) has embarked on a special, two-year Beethoven piano sonata series with the best of the local pianists. The venture, which dispenses with the idea of a marathon performance, starts this Friday and will take place about once a month.

span 22 years of composition that raised the piano sonata to a pitch of poetic intensity and dramatic urgency that was undreamed of by his predecessors and never since approached.

The sonatas show an almost unbroken progression in breadth of style and depth of content. They mirror Beethoven's spiritual growth and intellectual self-discovery with an even greater completeness than his symphonies or quartets.

It is interesting to note that Beethoven's attitude towards the piano as a vehicle for virtuosity changed markedly around the middle of his creative life. The "Appassionata" Sonata (Op. 57) was the last to have a pronounced virtuoso appeal.

Increasing deafness undoubtedly accelerated this progression to imaginative self-sufficiency and listening to all the sonatas helps exemplify the very conscious change in the form, style, content and content of the Beethoven piano sonata.

In 1782, when Beethoven was 12, he composed nine *Variations for Piano on a March of Dressler*.

It was his first published work and eventually paved the way to some of the greatest piano sonatas ever written — most of which he performed himself. He even continued to play the piano parts of his chamber music and the solo parts of his concerti when he became totally deaf.

The coming series, edited and

presented by Assaf Zohar, will enable local music lovers to delve deep into Beethoven's life and focus on some of his masterpieces. It is a series no music lover should miss.

Do not let rumors that all concerts are sold out influence you. Just go and make sure you get in. The first program, this Friday at noon, features the composer's first sonatas performed by Emanuel Krasovsky and Assaf Zohar.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Alabina's concerts, slated for November 28 & 29, have been postponed due to illness.

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Disband the religious councils

The religious councils in the country's municipalities and local authorities have for many years played a starring role in the annual State Comptroller's Report on political patronage, profligate spending, and corruption in governmental institutions. Despite the repeated and much publicized evidence that, in the interests of proper public administration, a major reformation of the method by which religious services are provided to the public is desperately needed, the political backing for correcting the system's many flaws has never existed.

Until now, that is. Ironically, the calls for overhauling the system of religious services is now coming from the most distinguished elements within the Orthodox establishment, who had in the past fought most vociferously against such suggestions. Though the immediate cause of this new attitude has more to do with a fear of legitimizing non-Orthodox streams within Judaism than anything else, if the result of all this is an improvement in public administration, then it will still be very welcome.

The religious establishment was thrown into a state of agitation last Thursday, when the High Court of Justice ordered the Religious Affairs Ministry to seat Reform and Conservative representatives on the religious councils of Jerusalem and Kiryat Tivon, ending years of court battles and foot-dragging. Faced now with an unequivocal High Court order that cannot be disobeyed, rabbis and representatives of Orthodox parties held an emergency meeting to discuss their options.

The proposals ranged from attempting to bring down the government to the suggestion raised by no less an authority than Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron, to replace the councils altogether with professional authorities. But nothing could conceal the truth that what the religious establishment is up against is not a minor political maneuver, but a confrontation with the internal contradictions and Catch-22s inherent in involving government with religion.

The principle of separation of state and religion developed in Western nations out of very practical considerations: using public resources to support religious services almost always leads to preferential treatment for one system of religious beliefs over another. Israel has from its inception involved the state heavily in religious issues, from family courts to the provision of kosher supervision and the construction of synagogues and mikvaot, to say nothing of the city and neighborhood rabbis whose salaries are directly paid by the state.

But as is well known, while the Jewish people may be one, when it comes to the minutiae of religious observance the competing schools of thought are many. A synagogue built for Sephardi prayer is different from one built according to the Ashkenazi tradition, just to cite one example. And we haven't even begun considering the needs of the Moslem popula-

tion. In countries with a separation of state and religion, these issues are resolved in each community on a voluntary basis through contributions. When the state takes these decisions using public funds, it automatically opens itself up to charges of favoritism.

In fact, the establishment of the religious councils stemmed originally from a desire to attach a semblance of public accountability to these issues. The religious councils are charged with disbursing religious service budgets within their localities. In order to ensure that the voice of the communities be heard in the councils, their composition is determined by the results of municipal elections. The history of the religious councils, however, is a lesson in how good intentions can be corrupted by political interests. The religious parties took to viewing the councils as forums for increasing their political power at the expense of their main rivals - other religious parties. The measure of autonomy granted to the councils, along with their access to funds, turned out to be an irresistible opportunity for patronage and wholesale grants of jobs and money.

A committee headed by former justice minister Haim Zadok in 1993 noted that the number of religious councils had mushroomed over time to over 160, along with a swelling in the membership of each one. Council heads voted themselves salaries approaching those of government ministers, with matching offices, staffs, and cars, while the number of deputy heads per council, all receiving salaries and benefits as well, swelled to ridiculous figures. All this while the level of services to the public deteriorated.

The spark for change occurred over the past decade, when secular parties decided to make use of the representation they are entitled to on the councils in order to assist the Reform and Conservative movements, which had been completely ignored by the religious councils. The number of such representatives in religious councils around the country is now 10.

The sharp reaction of the Orthodox establishment against the seating of Reform and Conservative Jews on the religious councils needs to be put to good use now in order to overhaul the entire system. The religious councils are an unnecessary drain on public resources and should be dissolved. The corruption associated with them has only served to besmirch the image of religion in the eyes of the public.

Religious services, like all other municipal services, should be provided for by professional departments staffed by civil servants under the normal Civil Service rules regulating salaries and political non-affiliation. The allocation of services provided must be based, not on political interests, but fair guidelines established by law. And yes, as long as public funds are used to support religious services, they must be equally and democratically provided to the non-Orthodox sectors of the public, including the Reform and Conservative movements.

OPINION

A social revolution?

YOSEF GOELL

There is a good chance that the nearly month-old university students' strike will be settled this week. The student leaders seem to have overplayed their hand by resorting much too early in the game to the ultimate weapon of a hunger strike. But for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who involved himself in the negotiations only last week, the danger of profoundly alienating such a large bloc of potential voters so close to possible early elections also politically perilous.

There are a number of potential formulas for reaching a compromise on the students' central demand of cutting tuition by 50 percent. The demand for a universal cut in fees was unreasonable from the start, for it such a reduction would not only benefit needy students, but also the substantial number of students whose parents can certainly help them pay for their studies. Making

Rabin-Peres government. Strike leader Erez Eshel, the chairman of the Tel Aviv University Students Union, admitted in an interview this weekend that making the tuition reduction the students' initial rallying cry had been a means to a much broader end. "If I would have declared that I was planning a social revolution, I would have been left with no soldiers," he said.

SO WHAT has the strike been all about? There is no doubt that for most of the students, at least at first, it was primarily a sectorial demand for "more." But as time went on and the Treasury dug in its heels and demonstrating students became the victims of excessive force by the police, it turned - inchoately - into a much broader social protest.

The students' tuition demands will be settled by compromise. It would be a beneficial spin-off, however, if their strike helped get us out of the political rut we've been in for 20 years.

university education nearly free along the model of many European countries is a luxury Israel cannot afford, especially when it seems to be following the American trend of encouraging higher education for as many young adults as possible.

This demand was also unreasonable in the broader terms of the social justice that the strike leaders have emblazoned on their flag. The real obstacle to young people from needy families - and even from many middle-income families - making the breakthrough to higher education is not so much the high tuition as the substandard primary and secondary education that they have been given, in a state school system whose budgets have been cut to the bone for close to two decades - with the shining exception of the four years of the

Eshel and other strike leaders spoke in terms of bringing about a revolutionary restoration of the status of university education and research in the general social scheme and in the budgetary order of priorities. Other slogans demanded social justice in much broader contexts.

There may be some justification for viewing such sloganeering with a certain degree of cynicism. But too much cynicism would be unwarranted, for the students have clearly hit on some exposed raw nerves.

For tactical reasons - the fact that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is a major proponent of the obscenely large government subsidies for yeshiva students and settlements, and that Agudat Yisrael MK Avraham Ravitz is chairman of the all-powerful Knesset Finance Committee - the strikers conscious-

ly refrained from attacking the haredi yeshivot. But it was that invidious comparison between the two sectors that provided much of the impetus for the students to persist so long.

The fact that most of the students are demobilized soldiers, many of them from front-line units, is frequently contrasted with the fact that yeshiva students are basically a parasitic element whose obscene draft-dodging has been made possible by the cynical collusion of the political establishment, whether the Likud or Labor is at the helm.

In this sense, the student strike is a further expression of the profound sense of public revulsion over this issue.

THE STRIKE can also be seen as a much delayed reaction of a younger generation to the inordinate domina-

tion of the political scene by issues relating to the territories.

Following the Wye Memorandum, it is clear that the differences between the mainstays of the two major parties on these issues are now basically nil.

But for years, both the Likud and Labor have sacrificed the many neglected issues in Israeli society on the altar of their respective chimeras: the Greater Land of Israel, or peace that is around the corner if we just give in to all the Palestinian - and Syrian - territorial demands.

The students' tuition demands will be settled by compromise. It would be a fantastically beneficial spin-off, however, if the strike proved to be the opening shot of a new generation's challenge to the political rut in which we've been for the past 20 years.

Dry Bones



Where are they now?

BERNARD WASSERSTEIN

What has become of the Palestinian Gypsies? A century ago they were a readily identifiable group. Known as the Zutt or Nawar (a plural form of the Arabic *Nuri*), they dressed similarly to their fellow nomads, the Beduin, but they had their own language and distinct customs and social patterns.

In the mid-nineteenth century they were a common sight in towns and villages in the Holy Land; they proceeded through the countryside, sometimes with performing animals they would show off in public. In the early years of this century, R. A. Stewart Macalister, professor of Celtic archeology at University College, Dublin, came across them in the course of his nine years of digs under the auspices of the Palestine Exploration Fund. He employed some on his excavation works. In conversation with his foreman, Yusuf Khattar, he learned a smattering of their language.

Fascinated by this dialect that even then was in the process of disappearing, he befriended another Gypsy, Shaker Mahsin.

"I paid Shaker Mahsin ... to come and sit with me for several hours each day, telling ... stories ... and interpreting them in Arabic," he recorded.

From this source, Macalister constructed a grammar and vocabulary of the language of the Nawar that was published in 1914 by Edinburgh University Press.

The origin of the Palestinian Gypsy dialect is disputed among

scholars. Macalister said it was quite unlike the language of European Turkish Gypsies.

Ya'acov Shimoni, in his *Arviyei Eretz Yisrael*, published in 1947, wrote that the Palestinian Gypsies "among themselves speak a special language called in Arabic *asfur*, that is, the sound or twitter of the sparrow, i.e., bird."

Intrigued by this forgotten lan-

guage, I consulted a leading expert on linguistics, Prof. John A. C. Greppin, of Cleveland State University, who replied to me: "There is no doubt that the Nuri language is a Gypsy dialect and the review [of Macalister] by R. Pischel (who wrote a monumental work on the Prakrit dialects of old India) never questions it."

Jews, who agonize so much about their own continuity, might spare the Nawar a thought.

WHAT SORT of people were these Gypsies? Macalister calls them "nomad smiths" and took photographs of their tent encampment just north of the Damascus Gate. On his last day in Jerusalem he intended to take a photograph of Shaker. Unfortunately that "proved" to be a day of such torrential rain that photography was out of the question.

Later he wrote to a friend in Jerusalem and asked him to try to obtain a portrait "only to find that in

performing animals, including a bear and a monkey.

Shimoni, describing their situation in the mandatory period, wrote that the Nawar "have accepted the Moslem faith but ... do not care much about religion."

Like Gypsies elsewhere, they were tinkers, coppersmiths and engravers. "But among the Arabs, they are regarded as thieves," Shimoni added. "Some are dancers and singers; and they give entertainments such as animal shows in the streets of towns ... For the rest, many of them are beggars."

Shimoni records that "among the Arabs there are derogatory proverbs about the Gypsies and the name Nuri itself came to be used simply as a term of abuse."

WHAT BECAME of these people? Despised by Arabs and unrecog-

nized by Jews, some left the country during the disturbances of 1936-9. In 1953, a British officer, Major Lunt, met a band of Nawar in Jordan and wrote a report of the encounter in the *Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society*.

Following the 1967 war, Teddy Kollek, as mayor of Jerusalem, recognized the Gypsies as a distinct community and appointed one of them as a liaison with the municipality. In the late 1970s, Yaniv estimated that there were still 300 Gypsies living in east Jerusalem. By then they were mostly sedentary and seemed to be in an advanced stage of assimilation.

Today the language and customs of the Nawar have almost vanished, swallowed up by the surrounding Arab society.

Who will be next? The Beduin, in Israel as in every other country of the Middle East, face immense pressures to abandon their nomadic life and conform to the norms of civilized society. The Samaritans, the Circassians and the Karaites also find immense difficulty in sustaining their distinctiveness. The great steamroller of modernization is flattening away the collective identity of all these minorities.

Jews, who agonize so much about their own continuity, might spare them a thought. Israeli society, which devotes not inconsiderable resources to preserving in aspic the way of life of the haredi minority, should protect and nurture the survival of these other endangered groups - who are no less fellow-citizens.

Clinton goes wobbly

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

as they approach enemy airspace, without demoralizing the troops. And nothing so demoralizes as a show of irresolution by the high command. Clinton was given an extraordinary opportunity to strike a massive blow against Saddam. And he flinched.

Rarely have the stars been so aligned in our favor. As in 1990, Saddam badly miscalculated. The expulsion of the UN inspectors was such a blatant provocation that it left him totally isolated. He lost Russia. He lost China. He lost France. And then fatally, he lost the Arabs.

The crucial event was the unusually strong resolution coming from eight Arab states (Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia and five Gulf states) blaming the crisis and all its consequences on Saddam. Their declaration that whatever disaster befell Iraq would be on Saddam's head was a bright green light to Clinton from quarters that for years had been flashing nothing but yellow and red.

Never in the years since the end of the Gulf War have conditions been better to severely weaken, if not bring down Saddam. Compared to 1991, his position is militarily and politically weaker and, with Westerners having spent

seven years roaming around his country, our intelligence is correspondingly better. Even the moon was on our side: waning (dark nights are safer for bombers).

UNABLE to distinguish a crisis from an opportunity, however, Clinton blew this extraordinary opportunity. Saddam's overt dismissal of the UN inspection regime presented Clinton with a clear, understandable, universally accepted casus belli. It is now gone.

Clinton now claims that nothing is lost: If Saddam does not live up to his word - as we know he will not - and the inspectors are obstructed, Clinton says he is prepared to strike again.

Fat chance. If Clinton was reluctant to attack when he had unanimous international support and a clear casus belli, what are the chances he would go to war if chief arms inspector Richard Butler is, say, delayed entry to a wing of a pharmaceutical plant? Risk 10,000 Iraqi dead (the military's estimate of casualties from an initial strike) over some obscure, messy inspection "modality"? The very idea is ridiculous.

The moment has passed. And for what? For a return of the UN

Special Commission? By this administration's own admission, UNSCOM has been increasingly ineffectual. Since Clinton's last great self-proclaimed victory over Saddam (Annan's February mission to Baghdad), UNSCOM has been an empty shell. That is why Scott Ritter resigned: UNSCOM's phantom inspecting reprisal that old Soviet workers' joke, "They pretend to pay us. We pretend to work." The administration confuses ends and means. UNSCOM is a means to the end of disarming Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Does anyone doubt it will be thwarted again?

The end of US policy is, to the greatest degree possible, to disarm, disrupt and destroy Saddam's regime. A relentless air campaign had a good chance of doing that. Yes, forty days of air war did not do it in 1991. But Saddam was much stronger in 1991. And the fact that this time around he was so desperate to avoid the coming American attack belies the defeatists here who think it would have failed or even backfired.

Saddam obviously did not think so. He maneuvered his way out of this crisis because he genuinely feared the possible chain reaction of a massive American attack. His fear was our opportunity. Clinton let it pass.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CYPRUS IS CHEAPER

Sir, - For many years we visited Israel with our small family, both to confirm our Jewish roots and to visit relatives who had taken the courageous step of living there. Alas, we can do so no more. We are happy that our small family has become a bigger family, but upset that we can no longer afford the outrageous prices demanded of us for a visit to Israel.

Approaching school holidays, I telephoned three widely advertised hotels in Jerusalem to inquire about family rooms. "No such thing," I was informed

brusquely and the cutting off of the conversation precluded further conversation. Hostels and camps would have meant splitting up the group. Tours, for four adults and six children, were out of our reach.

Cyprus offered the same climate, interesting antiquities, and unlimited flexibility. Our packet, at half the Israel price, included a free flight, half board in a four star hotel, transport to and from the airport, and willing, friendly service. Nothing was too much trouble for the staff. Family room on

LOVER OF ZION

Sir, - As a delegate (from New Jersey) to the General Assembly, I was moved to tears by the letter from reader Raya Gensler ("Real Zionist," November 18). According to Ms. Gensler, "Zionists are those who come on aliyah or consider the option seriously... all the rest have no moral right to be referred to as Zionists."

In my town, 30 percent - one out of every three - Jewish families are emigrants (yordim)

from Israel. A dominant theme runs through all of their replies when I ask them why they have left the Promised Land.

Israel, they claim, has not lived up to their dreams based upon the history books. The "building up" of the country is not being done by Jewish hands but by hundreds of thousands of foreign workers - from Thailand, Romania, Africa, and elsewhere.

Use of narcotics is rampant

request, unbelievable choices of food. For a two-day absence on a tour, not only was our payment reduced as we allowed the rooms to be used, but we were allotted a truly luxurious suite on our return, gifted with champagne and a £50 bonus.

Maybe when we win the lottery we will be able to visit Israel again.

Until then, Cyprus has our custom.

DR. and MRS. E. HORNE

Cheshire, U.K.

among your young people, and the most popular spots in Tel Aviv, "the world's largest Jewish city" are the massage parlors along Hayarkon Street and the "sex beach" at Tel Baruch.

Under these circumstances, Ms. Gensler, I am delighted to be designated by you as a "Lover of Zion" rather than as a "Zionist."

ALEC BLUMBERG

Jerusalem (Teaneck, N.J.).

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On November 23, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported at length on the successful settlement of recent immigrants from Germany on the Jewish National Fund land in Eneq Zevulun in the Haifa Bay area. The new settlement was expected to provide both urban and agricultural opportunities.

50 years ago: On November 23, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that oil was found at three oil sites in the Negev: at Jebel Usdum, Huleikal and Kumbub.

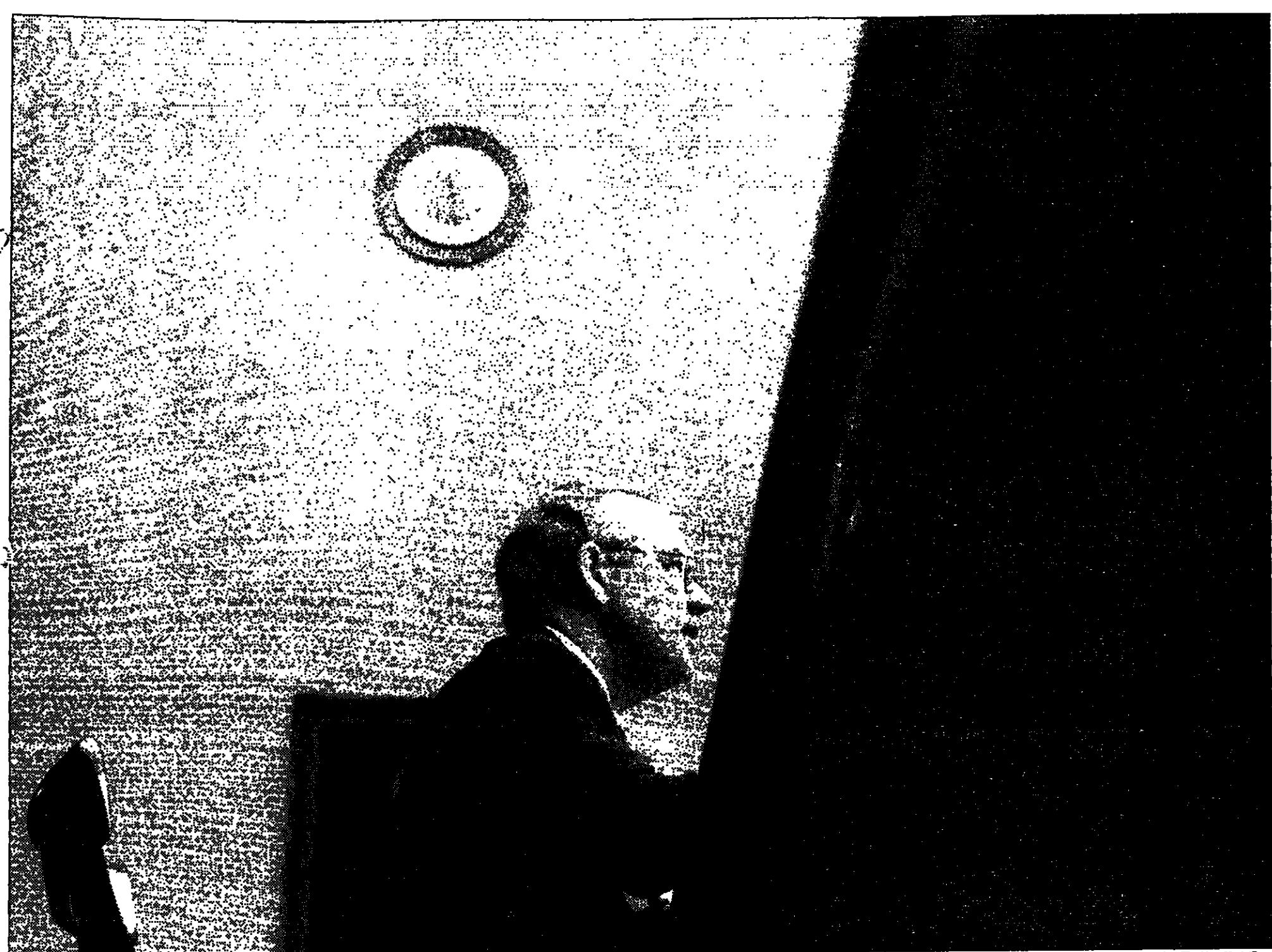
25 years ago: On November 23, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post*

reported Defense Minister Moshe Dayan's admission that some Israeli soldiers taken captive by Egypt were murdered. Japan, hard hit by an oil shortage, switched its Middle East policy from neutral to pro-Arab.

Alexander Zvielli

150 من الامم

Quiz Show



For some on the House Judiciary Committee, it was payback time: Kenneth W. Starr on the hot seat last week. Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

The Case (if Any) Against the Prosecutor

By NEIL A. LEWIS

WASHINGTON
As the Judiciary Committee hearing wore on into the night last Thursday, Kenneth W. Starr came to resemble not so much a Congressional witness as a defendant in the dock. It was a display of how much President Clinton's supporters have succeeded in turning the issue before the nation from the impeachability of the President to the behavior of Mr. Starr, the independent counsel.

When David E. Kendall, the President's lawyer, questioned him near the end of the hearing, Mr. Starr was goaded into shedding his Mr. Rogers-goes-to-Congress-to-explain-things manner. Instead, he was briefly reduced to indignant denials. And, although Mr. Kendall is the President's defense lawyer, he did not spend a moment of his allotted hour defending the President.

There was really only The Case Against Starr.

The main arguments about the behavior and approach of Mr. Starr and his associates concern how they have treated witnesses, notably Monica S. Lewinsky, and whether they leaked confidential grand jury proceedings. Critics have also raised other issues, including whether Mr. Starr was involved improperly in Paula Corbin Jones's sexual harassment lawsuit against the President.

In their effort to portray Mr. Starr as vindictive and unprofessional, Democrats have hinted darkly that Mr. Starr broke some rule or violated some law. But the rules that govern prosecutorial conduct are, for the most part, vaguely worded exhortations and proscriptions in bar association manuals and Justice Department guidelines.

Professor Charles Wolfram of the Cornell Law School, an authority in legal ethics, said the rules about prosecutorial misconduct are inherently vague and have been intentionally left that way by the courts. "Courts continually say that it is not the behavior of the prosecutor that should be put on trial unless there's something really extraordinary that happens," he said. Moreover, he said, "you never get a sharp definition of what these vaguely worded guidelines mean."

The charges against Mr. Starr have been lobbed in the highly specialized and partisan context of an impeachment proceeding, an atmosphere with the subtlety of, say, Monday Night Football. In such a proceeding, Professor Wolfram said, the nuances of Mr. Starr's behavior matter far less than broad impressions about whether he is fair. "He can't just be another prosecutor playing fast and loose with the rules," he said.

In the battle for perceptions, Mr. Starr suffered a blow on Friday when Samuel Dash abruptly resigned as his ethics adviser. The presence of Mr. Dash, who was counsel to the Watergate committee in 1974, lent an air of rectitude to Mr. Starr's operation. Mr. Dash praised Mr. Starr's overall conduct, but said that he had overstepped his bounds by becoming an advocate for impeachment.

But just as everyday prosecutors are rarely punished for wrongdoing, Mr. Starr and his deputies are largely immune from penalty even if some of the charges against them prove true. As an independent counsel, he is chiefly the judge of his own behavior, although he could be fired for misconduct by Attorney General Janet Reno. She has shown little interest so far in complaints from the White House about Mr. Starr.

The area in which the guidelines are the most explicit and the issue that may pose the greatest threat to Mr. Starr is the allegation that his office improperly leaked grand jury information. The Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure flatly prohibit prosecutors from disclosing grand jury matters.

In September, Judge Norma Holloway Johnson ruled that 24 news accounts about the investigation of President Clinton appear to show that prosecutors in Mr. Starr's office discussed grand jury matters with reporters. The judge described the articles and broadcasts as "serious and repetitive" evi-

The rules that govern Starr's conduct are deliberately vague.

dence that Mr. Starr and his staff may have violated the law. As a result, Mr. Starr now has to prove that his office was not responsible for any of those 24 news accounts.

The issue produced the liveliest moments in the Starr-Kendall confrontation Thursday night. Mr. Kendall read from some of the news accounts, noting that they included phrases like, "sources in Starr's office tell us," "sources near Starr," and "prosecutors suggest." He then asked, "Does the media make up these quotes, Mr. Starr?"

Mr. Starr replied, "I'm not here to accuse the media of anything," adding that the

matter was under litigation and it was unfair to raise it publicly.

Mr. Kendall countered, "Mr. Starr, in fact, there has been no case remotely similar to this in terms of the massive leaking from the prosecutor's office, and I think we know that."

Mr. Starr replied: "I totally disagree with that. That's an accusation and it's an unfair accusation. I completely reject it."

If Judge Johnson were to find that Mr. Starr or his deputies improperly disclosed grand jury materials, they could face sanctions. The Judge could formally censure anyone in Mr. Starr's office found to have violated the law, a significant blow to a legal career.

Mr. Starr also defended himself against charges that Ms. Lewinsky was mistreated when his prosecutors first confronted her in a suburban Virginia hotel last January. She told a grand jury she was threatened, detained and discouraged from calling her lawyer or her mother. "You're 24, you're smart," she said a

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Marxism or Neiman-Marxism?

Lately, well-paid workers are more likely to strike.

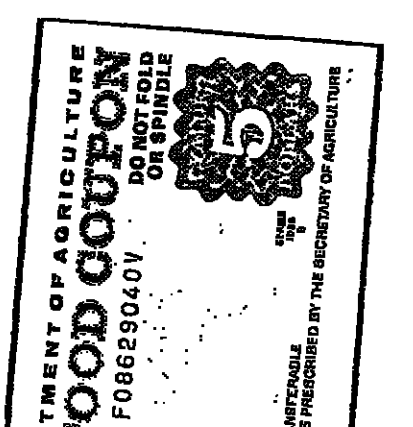
By Steven Greenhouse



Welfare Case

Relying on self-reliance doesn't do the job.

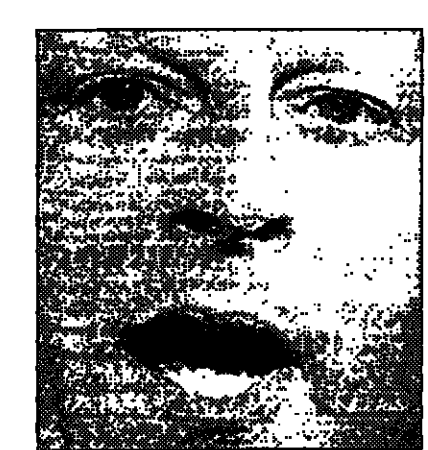
By Rachel L. Swarns



In Your Face

Diplomacy isn't always diplomatic.

By David E. Sanger



Second Acts, and Beyond

Check Out the 'Me, Reborn' Generation

By PETER APPLEBOME

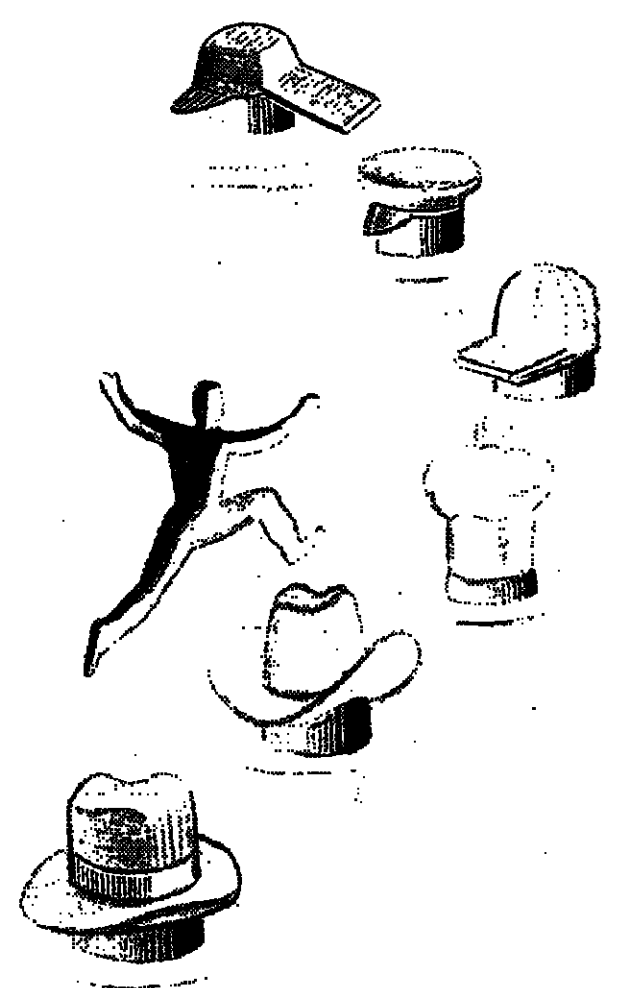
LOOKING for a role model for your career? How about Jesse Ventura, the menacing wrestler turned blustery radio host turned straight-talking Minnesota Governor-elect?

The election of Mr. Ventura this month may have seemed simply a golden moment in political eccentricity. But if you wade through the bulging bookshelf of tomes on the changing nature of careers in America, Mr. Ventura looks like something else as well—a poster boy for the new post-downsizing, information-age ethos of creative reinvention that various deep thinkers trumpet as the new norm in the American workplace.

In fact, there are striking changes in the economy, psychology and demography of the country that make Mr. Ventura's unlikely path—and the lure of inspired amateurism—particularly illustrative. But how new the ethos of reinvention is, whether it is a trend to be welcomed or feared and how committed Americans are to it are all questions worth pondering.

As if taken from books with titles like, "Career Intelligence: the 12 New Rules for Work and Life Success," Mr. Ventura's career seems crafted from the jargon of the career counseling class: He sees his career as a lattice, not a ladder. He communicates in persuasive yet unconventional ways. He thinks about roles, not jobs, cultivates a broad network and keeps on learning. At 47, he probably has several zigs and zags left.

"He found a way to take his own authentic self and use it to reposition himself as a politician," said Barbara Moses, head of B.B.M. Human Resource Consultants of Toronto and the author of "Career Intelligence" (Berritt-Koehler, 1998). "I think of careers in terms of Legos. You might have a space station, but a kid takes the space vehicle and uses it at the zoo and then it



becomes an ambulance that takes people to the hospital. The pieces are reconfigured, but their essential properties have not mutated. More and more, we do the same thing in our careers."

F. Scott Fitzgerald once mused that, "There are no second acts in American lives." It may be one of the least persuasive aphorisms ever to get wide currency.

Americans have always had second acts. They have been immigrants beginning anew. They have left behind families and scrawled "Gone to Texas" on the walls of their houses. Second and third marriages are routine. And even in the most conventional lives, retirees leave familiar worlds behind for the Florida sun.

WHAT is new is that so many Americans are now having third and fourth acts, they are having them later in life and several trends may be making them unavoidable.

First is the aging of the population, the dominant demographic trend as 76 million baby boomers continue to age into vital, restless seniors. In 1900, life expectancy in the United States was 49. Today it is 76. People who reach age 55 can expect to live into their 80's, meaning most will either be working longer or anticipating a retirement more dynamic and challenging than models from the recent past.

Second is the wave of layoffs and restructurings of the early 1990's. A study by James Medoff, a Harvard economist, found that workers between the ages of 35 and 54 were 55 percent more likely to be jobless during the 1990's because of a layoff or job loss than in the 1970's. The cuts at the nation's biggest companies obliterated for many the expectation of lifelong employment with a single employer, and made restructuring and

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The Nation

In an Odd Turn, Officials Are Pushing Welfare

By RACHEL L. SWARNS

DON'T gasp, but the bureaucrats are rolling out the welcome mats at some of the nation's welfare offices again.

They are beckoning the working poor and courting the thousands of single mothers abandoning the welfare rolls. And the message to those struggling to survive without government checks? "Don't forget to apply for Medicaid and food stamps!"

This touting of public charity may seem startling, even contradictory, at a time when government officials are pushing work, not welfare. But food stamps and Medicaid are considered vital entitlements that keep working people off welfare and the newly employed from slipping back on. And when Federal officials noticed a surprising dip in the number of food stamp recipients earlier this year, they prodded states to act.

In a flurry of recent memos, Federal officials told states to conduct "aggressive outreach" and regional officials to crack down on wayward localities. The fear is that local governments may be blocking access to food stamps and Medicaid as they persuade people to give up the dole, snatching a valuable crutch from welfare mothers hobbling toward self-reliance.

New York City, for instance, drew intense scrutiny earlier this month with its practice of delaying Medicaid

stamp recipients to make sure they know about Medicaid. And in Wisconsin, which has stationed Medicaid and food stamp workers in some hospitals, Milwaukee is considering revamping its application process altogether.

Instead of meeting first with workers who discourage applications for welfare, clients in Milwaukee may soon stop first at the desks of officials who will discuss their rights to food stamps and Medicaid, a shift sought by advocates for the poor.

"We're learning that you need to let people know they're eligible," said Jean Rogers, an administrator at Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development. "Both of these issues speak to being able to hold a job," she said. "If you're sick, you can't hold down a job. If you're hungry the same applies."

But not everyone has joined the rush to embrace food stamps, which are financed entirely by the Federal Government, and Medicaid, which is partly financed by the Federal Government. Some local officials are still ambivalent, particularly about pushing food stamps, a benefit tainted, to some, by welfare's sour smell of failure.

Federal officials have taken pains to distinguish between the two. By law, municipalities can discourage people from applying for welfare. Food stamps and Medicaid, however, are still Federal entitlements and applications must be offered without delay.

But for some officials, the dividing line is still blurry. Texas, for instance, gives awards to welfare offices that discourage the largest numbers of people from applying for welfare and food stamps. (State officials say they are now reconsidering the reward for food stamps.)

And in New York City, where applications are generally offered only on a second visit, officials protest that offering easier access to food stamps and Medicaid would damage their efforts to destroy the culture of dependency in poor neighborhoods.

"Some states have not bought in at a philosophical level that they should make sure people get food stamps and Medicaid," said Liz Schott, an analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a nonprofit research group in Washington.

FOR the most part, it's not intentional," said Ms. Schott, who has studied the issue. "It's not that they don't want people to get food stamps or Medicaid. But this zeal to reduce the welfare caseloads hasn't been separated from food stamps and Medicaid."

Such concerns bubbled up earlier this year when advocates for the poor began noticing that the number of food stamp recipients had fallen by 25 percent since 1996, the year the new welfare law was signed, a decline that Federal officials say cannot be explained by the

improved economy. (Comparable Medicaid statistics are not yet available. In New York, declines in Medicaid and food stamps have been similar.)

At first, some officials thought people were finding jobs and no longer needed food stamps, said Julie Paradis, an undersecretary at the Department of Agriculture. But a closer look at the statistics — and conversations with advocates for the poor — convinced Federal officials that many people were simply struggling without benefits, she said. Most local officials now believe the downward trend must be slowed, she added. Those officials are now reaching out to applicants



Food stamps help people get off the dole. So it's a problem that requests are falling.

and food stamp applications until a second visit to the welfare office. (Federal law requires them to be handed out without delay.)

But officials in some states are also wringing their hands over computers that sometimes improperly terminate food stamps and Medicaid benefits. And federal officials want to clear the clouds of confusion in poor communities where some believe that ending old-style welfare means an end to all government assistance.

Already, the Federal Government's urgings — coupled with local concerns for the poor — have persuaded some states to do the unthinkable: vigorously hawk public aid. Maryland, where colorful brochures about Medicaid and food stamps are stacked in its welfare waiting rooms, now plans to mail that information to the 2,500 single mothers who leave the welfare rolls each month.

South Dakota has sent hundreds of letters to food

Power Bargaining

Walking the Picket Line in Gucci Loafers

By STEVEN GREENHOUSE

JUDGING from this month's explosion of labor disputes, class struggle has gone upscale. Marxism seems to have given way to Nieman-Marxism. Basketball superstars earning \$10 million a year are locked in battle with management. Federal Express pilots pulling in \$130,000 or more a year have repeatedly threatened to strike. And cameramen at ABC who, with overtime, frequently make \$125,000 a year or more, have been walking the picket lines for close to three weeks.

Over the past few years, there has been a clear trend in labor relations: The average income of workers involved in high-visibility disputes has risen. Whereas labor confrontations were once dominated by burly, blue-collar steelworkers or longshoremen, now the burliest thing about many strikers is the size of their 401(k) plans.

Chroniclers of the labor movement see a straightforward explanation for this trend. In the 1980's, after President Reagan dismissed the nation's striking air traffic controllers, corporations turned increasingly to using permanent replacement workers to keep their operations running during strikes. Management's embrace of this potent tool terrified many workers, causing them to fear they would lose their jobs if they went on strike. As a result, the number of strikes and lockouts plummeted.

Low-skilled, low-paid workers who could easily be replaced during walkouts became the most fearful of striking, and highly-skilled workers who are hard to replace were emboldened.

"This is an era when strikes don't work very well," said Richard Hurd, a professor of industrial and labor relations at Cornell University. "Strikes have a chance where unions have bargaining power, and the unions that have a lot of bargaining power nowadays are those with skilled workers who are very difficult to replace."

Remember how baseball owners embarrassed themselves when they toyed with the idea of using minor leaguers to replace millionaire major leaguers during the strike in 1994? Learning from baseball's experience, the N.B.A. has not seriously considered replacing its players.

"There aren't too many unemployed basketball superstars walking around the streets who can replace these guys," said Craig Olson, a professor of industrial relations at the University of Wisconsin.

The basketball showdown and the dispute involving 2,200 off-camera workers at ABC are lockouts, not strikes, and ABC, unlike the N.B.A., has been able to hobble along pretty well by using managers to do the work normally done by union cameramen and editors. As with strikes, lockouts generally occur when unions draw a line in the sand and refuse to bow to manage-



Fans demonstrated at a players' meeting in New York City this month as Juwan Howard of The Washington Wizards strode by.

Lately, it's the higher paid workers who are striking. They have the clout.

ments demands. And, labor experts say, highly skilled workers are more likely than unskilled ones nowadays to stand up to management and risk being locked out.

Some industrial relations experts say a tougher management stance has led to the recent showdowns, with employers demanding changes in established pay patterns or work rules. The N.B.A. is insisting on cutting the percentage of league revenues going to players to 50 percent, from 57 percent. ABC is demanding the right to increase the percentage of freelance off-

camera employees to at least 40 percent — the percentage allowed at NBC — from 14 percent under the old ABC contract.

"If you look at the history of collective bargaining over the last 15 years, the trend has been for employers to become more aggressive and to attempt to redefine the relationship," said Professor Hurd. "And they have largely succeeded in places where workers did not have the power to resist effectively, as we saw in the Caterpillar strike a few years ago."

All these disputes involving higher-paid workers pose a big challenge to the A.F.L.-C.I.O. The labor federation has sought to revive the dormant movement by increasing public support, by unionizing low-paid workers and by turning labor into a social movement that helps those on the lowest rung. Even some labor leaders acknowledge that when highly paid basketball stars and pilots demand more, the public will not rush to labor's cause the way it might to support underpaid farm workers who go on strike.

Still, if beloved stars like Michael Jordan win a few million more dollars a year in the current showdown, that just might help persuade many Americans that unions and collective bargaining can deliver, even if strikes strand passengers or wipe out weeks of a sports season.

IF these well-paid occupation groups can make some collective bargaining gains, that can only help the labor movement by showing that unions can be effective," said Daniel Cornfield, a Vanderbilt University sociology professor who specializes in labor matters. "A lot of working people idolize these athletes and they say, 'Yeah, these guys should be well paid, and executives are already paid too much,'" Professor Cornfield said.

"But there's probably a group of middle-class, white-collar workers who enjoy watching sports and would say, 'A plague on both their houses.'"

The Starr Case

Continued from Page 9

prosecutor told her. "You're old enough. You don't need to call your mommy." However heavy-handed those comments might have been, the issue that might run afoul of ethics guidelines is whether the prosecutors tried to engage her as a witness after she asked to speak to her lawyer.

Under Rule 4.2 the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct, lawyers, including prosecutors, may not talk directly to someone who might be involved in litigation or an investigation if they know that person is represented by a lawyer. A separate bar association manual on criminal matters makes it even clearer that prosecutors should step aside immediately when they learn someone they are interviewing is represented by a lawyer.

"What happened there was very improper," said Professor Geoffrey A. Hazard of the University of Pennsylvania Law School. The issue was so basic, he said, that even people whose only information comes from television shows know that prosecutors are not supposed to talk to subjects of an investigation once it's clear they have a lawyer.

BUT Professor Bob Tuttle of the George Washington University Law School said the situation is far from clear and that Mr. Starr may not be bound by those guidelines. The manual for prosecutors is only advisory, he said, and the Justice Department has long resisted efforts to make the model code apply to its prosecutors. Congress has approved legislation requiring the Justice Department to adhere to the model code, he said, but it takes effect late next year.

Although Mr. Starr is independent from the Justice Department, the law authorizing his appointment provides that he must adhere to department guidelines whenever possible. But Mr. Starr made clear that he believed the guidelines were not an issue because Ms. Lewinsky's perception that she was being threatened was inaccurate, and because she had been free to leave the hotel at any time.

"We used traditional law enforcement techniques," he said in response to charges that the prosecutors threatened Ms. Lewinsky with 27 years in jail and her mother's imprisonment. In fact, such threats are common in the hard-edged world of modern prosecutors. And he said his prosecutors did not have to allow Ms. Lewinsky to contact her lawyer because he represented her in a civil matter, the Paula Jones case, not a criminal matter.

On only one point did Mr. Starr give some ground. He conceded that his agents may have gone too far if, as alleged, they went to the school of a 16-year-old in Arkansas to serve a subpoena on him.

The World

Tongue-Lashings And Backlashes

By DAVID E. SANGER

THIS city has always kept an unwritten list of foreign leaders — dictators, unfriendly authoritarians and consistently annoying allies — who it thinks can make an enormous contribution to peace, security or America's agenda by taking early retirement, at a minimum. In the 1950's, the leftist leaders of Iran and Guatemala made the Top 10, in the '60's it was populated by Diem and Sukarno and other Southeast Asians. President Nixon and his advisers infamously agreed at a secret meeting in the '70's that the best way to deal with the Government of Salvador Allende Gossens in Chile was to "make the economy scream."

Diplomatic etiquette, though, has usually discouraged shouting America's enemies list from the White House rooftop. After all, foreign policy isn't about personalities, right? But last week, driven by frustration, or

Twice in a week, the U.S. uses 'megaphone diplomacy.' It can be a risky business.

anxiety, or perhaps the lure of sounding tough for cameras, the Clinton Administration piped up, twice. In very different situations, in opposite corners of the world, the United States spoke loudly because it can't find a stick.

On Sunday, hours after he called off an attack on Iraq, Mr. Clinton finally volunteered the obvious, that the focus of American policy toward Iraq is the removal of President Saddam Hussein — what Mr. Clinton called supporting the "forces of change in Iraq." No matter that covert efforts to do just that have failed miserably.

The bigger surprise came on Monday, when polite-to-a-fault Al Gore used his visit to Malaysia for an Asian economic summit meeting to throw American support behind protesters calling for "reformasi," the code word on the streets of Kuala Lumpur for dumping Mr. Mahathir. He has long been a burr in Washington's side, denouncing America, its currency traders and its Jews. Recently he imprisoned his Western-thinking Finance Minister, Anwar Ibrahim, who has suddenly become Asia's most visible jailed dissident. But Mr. Mahathir is no Saddam Hussein, not by a long shot.

The Vice President's aides insist that his speech was a call for reform, not a demand that Mr. Mahathir step down. But it wasn't interpreted that way. The New Zealanders called it "megaphone diplomacy." The Malaysian Government called it "disgusting" and an "interference in internal affairs." Predictably, executives of several American companies that have flocked to Kuala Lumpur told the Malaysians that the Vice President was rude, while assuring Washington that he had

uttered words that needed to be said.

Whatever the wisdom of the Mr. Gore's words, they raised the question of what it takes these days for the world's most powerful nation to begin publicly suggesting that it's time for a nettlesome leader to go. Because there is no official list, there are no real criteria for getting on it.

Some leaders mysteriously escape mention, like Kim Jong Il of North Korea. President Clinton is spending the weekend on the Korean Peninsula, staring across the demilitarized zone at a dangerous state that everyone suspects is attempting to break out of its 1994 agreement to freeze its nuclear weapons projects, in return for billions in Western energy aid. Yet Washington has never called on the starving North Koreans to revolt against Mr. Kim's repressive regime. His Government, taking a page out of the Saddam Hussein playbook, suggested last week that if the United States really wants to look at a mountain tunnel that the Pentagon believes is a nuclear installation in the making, it should write a check for another \$300 million. No one even called for Mr. Kim's removal when, a few months ago, he lobbed a three-stage missile over Japan just to show he knew how.

"The rules for calling for the end of a regime are pretty murky," said Richard Feinberg, a professor at the University of California at San Diego who served in the Clinton Administration's first term. "When they really want to push someone out, it is because that country is part of a larger strategic concern at the time. But the country itself usually doesn't have great strategic weight" — it's another matter to call for a change of leadership in Beijing or Moscow — "and it helps if there is some kind of domestic opposition that we can point to."

MR. CLINTON'S call for Mr. Hussein's ouster last weekend created barely a ripple because, after all, he is a proven murderer and an avid stockpiler of anthrax and plutonium (even if Brent Scowcroft, President Bush's national security adviser, insisted last week that these days he is simply "an irritant, an annoyance, a pest and a problem, but not a threat to the region at the moment").

Mr. Mahathir, however, is far more complex case. He's a prime example of how opposing Washington's political and economic agenda for an interconnected world can move a leader from the list of authoritarians whom Washington tolerates to the list of authoritarians who have outlived their usefulness.

Like other Asian strongmen — Ferdinand E. Marcos of the Philippines and Suharto of Indonesia come to mind — he was useful when the fear was that Malaysia would become a Communist domino. But he also seemed eminently tolerable long after the cold war was over. He has never been accused of enormous corruption. He turned his country into a model of competitiveness, and Malaysia became the exemplar of the "big emerging markets" that Mr. Clinton's Commerce Department touted until things went sour last year.

Sure, he was always prickly. But he is no terrorist or killer — American companies have flocked to his country, and say they want to stay — and his iron control



Keith Meyers/The New York Times

Vice President Al Gore may have strengthened Malaysia's leader by criticizing his regime.

over political discourse is no stronger than in neighboring Singapore. Just this summer, Mr. Rabin paid him an ostensibly friendly, if strained, visit and made no reference to human rights.

That all changed when Mr. Ibrahim was arrested and beaten in jail. He has long been an advocate of the Western-style solutions to economic turmoil — more openness, more freedom — and the protest movement against Mr. Mahathir only surfaced once he was in jail. Mr. Gore leapt on that opportunity — particularly striking because, in the case of Indonesia earlier this year, it took the Administration months to come to the conclusion that President Suharto had to go. He went.

The fear now is that the public American embrace of the nascent opposition in Malaysia could bolster Mr. Mahathir's standing. After all, he is a nationalist, and now he has evidence that the Americans want to see him toppled. It's not a far stretch for him to argue that Bill Clinton — who snubbed his country by skipping the summit at the last minute — is using currency traders

the way President Lyndon B. Johnson used Marines.

"Gore gave Mahathir the excuse to portray himself as a man fighting for independence from the Americans," a senior Clinton Administration official said, arguing that the Vice President went too far. "We've just taken a bad situation and made it worse."

BUT for a man who is already running for President, standing up to an Asian authoritarian can't be an entirely unwise move. The risk is one of unintended consequences. It is easy to explain to the world why you are simply going after brutal tyrants like Saddam Hussein or drug runners and money launderers. But siding with "reformers" is trickier business. Mr. Clinton did exactly that in Japan in 1993, abandoning decades of covert support for Japan's conservative ruling party. By the time the reformers were finished with the Japanese economy, Washington was begging for the old-timers to come back.

Pursuing Peace

Netanyahu and His Party Turn Away from 'Greater Israel'

By JOEL GREENBERG

FOR well over half a century, the political contours of the Zionist movement and Israel have been defined by a division between those who are prepared to share the biblical Jewish homeland with the Arabs, and those who claim it all.

At Israel's founding in 1948, the Labor Zionist leadership, which went on to govern Israel in its first three decades of independence, accepted a pragmatic partition of what had been British Palestine into independent Jewish and Arab states. The opposition Revisionist Zionists, who evolved into today's Likud party, sought "Eretz Yisrael Ha-Shlema" — Greater Israel, or literally, the Whole Land of Israel.

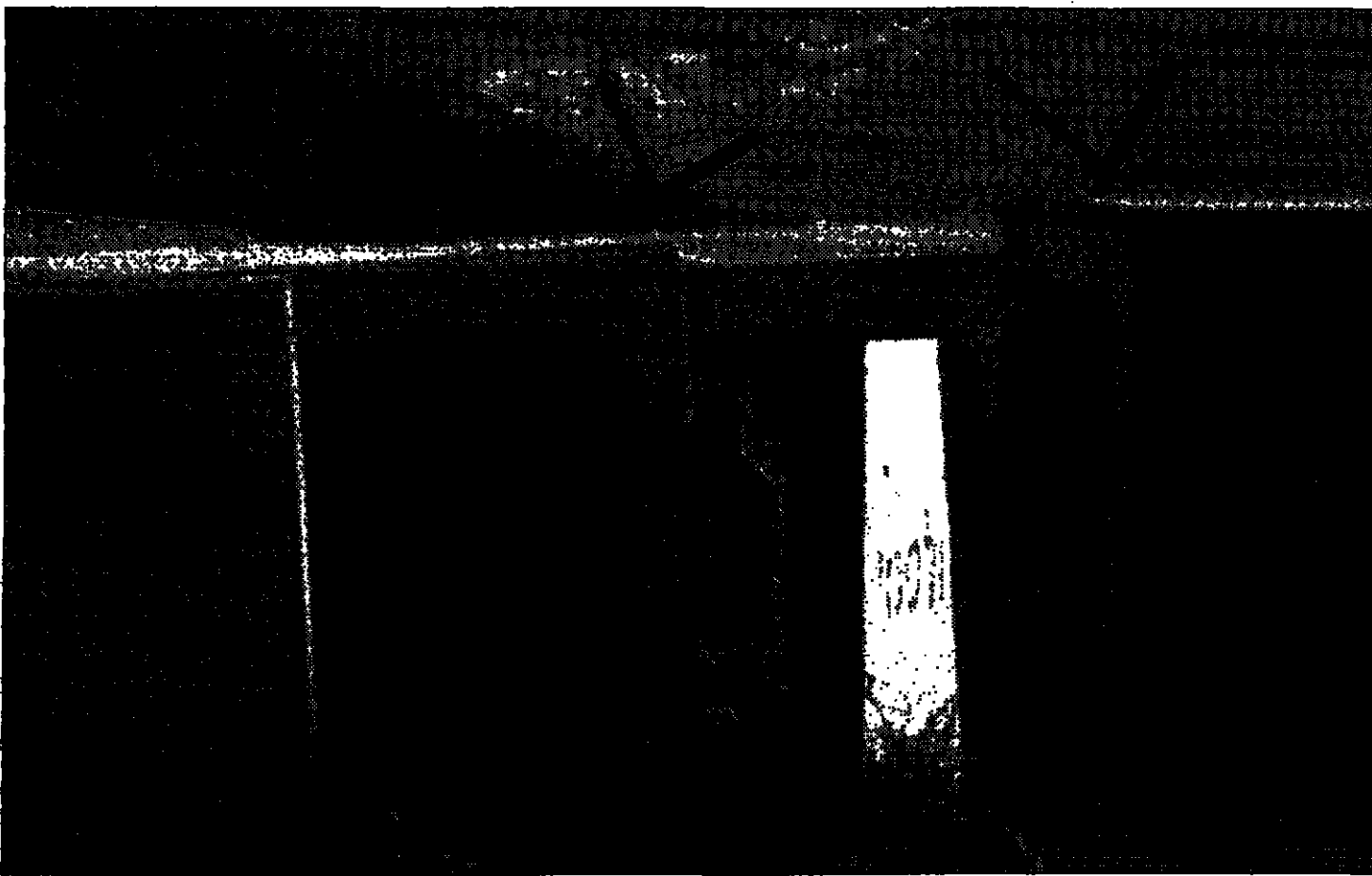
Through all the years that followed, that basic divergence in outlook continued to define the difference between Labor and Likud, the two principal movements in Israeli politics. Even after the Camp David accords of 1978, the Oslo accords of 1993, and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from most of Hebron last year, it was still possible to think that a Likud government might halt or reverse the process of turning over West Bank land to Arab control.

But last week, Israel's parliament went through the last formal act of closing that historical political divide. At the instigation of Likud's most important leaders, it approved the latest Israeli-Palestinian accord by a large majority that crossed party lines, and sanctioned a handover of territory that will leave the Palestinians in full or partial control of 40 percent of the West Bank.

In effect, the vote took the dream of a Greater Israel out of the political mainstream and relegated it to the margins of Israeli politics.

The death knell of Greater Israel was barely audible during a raucous late-night vote boycotted by several Cabinet members from the Likud. It was left to Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, long a champion of Jewish settlement in the West Bank and a vocal opponent of territorial compromise, to acknowledge the enormous shift that had occurred in his political camp.

"I don't know of another nation that would have given up areas linked to its historical heritage," Mr. Sharon declared, "but we in the Government had to decide whether we want to make a real and honest effort to reach arrangements that may bring peace between us and our neighbors. The Government's response was yes."



Associated Press

Continuing territorial compromise leaves Jewish settlers in the West Bank feeling beleaguered. A young settler amid fortifications.

The triumph of pragmatism blurred traditional distinctions. Likud, despite defections, had joined Labor in accepting the inevitability of territorial compromise, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu worked to get the agreement passed in de facto alliance with the opposition.

Approval of the agreement, which transfers significant areas to the Palestinian Authority, has historic value because it will be carried out by a government of the right, the newspaper Haaretz commented in an editorial. "It will be difficult in the future to go back to a policy of Greater Israel."

This was, of course, anathema to hard-core followers of Vladimir Jabotinsky, the founder of the Revisionist movement, who in 1937 declared that partition would be "the death of humanitarian Zionism" because it would leave no room for millions of Jewish immigrants fleeing persecution, and would make a Jewish state indefensible.

"The Likud party is virtually nonexistent," lamented Yitzhak Shamir, a former Prime Minister who was a leader of the Irgun, a Revisionist underground during the British Mandate in Palestine. "Nothing is left of what was our backbone: the principle that the Land of Israel is indivisible."

Revolutionary as it may seem, Likud's abandonment of its maximalist vision has in fact been evolving for years.

THE seed was sown in 1977, when Menachem Begin of Likud brought his party to power for the first time in a stunning election victory over Labor. A decade before, in the 1967 war, Israeli troops had in effect undone the partition accepted in 1948 by overrunning the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Ever since, Mr. Begin had preached undying loyalty to what he called Judea and Samaria (the West

Bank lands) and promoted Jewish settlement there. But he did not annex the West Bank and Gaza to Israel after he took office, reflecting a recognition that absorbing the Palestinians could turn Israel into a binational state instead of a Jewish one.

After President Anwar Sadat of Egypt visited Israel in 1977, Mr. Begin proposed autonomy for the Palestinians, suggesting that the question of ultimate sovereignty over the occupied territories be set aside. The plan lacked a territorial dimension, offering the Palestinians administration of their own affairs under Israeli rule, but it signaled an early readiness to acknowledge competing claims to the same land.

In the 1978 Camp David accords with Egypt, Mr. Begin took a further step, agreeing to negotiate a transitional period of Palestinian self-government in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and a final agreement on those areas with Egypt, Jordan and

Palestinian representatives. Yet Mr. Begin continued to encourage Jewish settlement in the occupied territories in an effort to block any possibility of a Palestinian state.

Mr. Shamir, who succeeded Mr. Begin, sat face-to-face with Palestinian representatives from the territories at the 1991 Middle East peace talks in Madrid, even as they consulted more or less openly with leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

MR. NETANYAHU, in turn, committed himself during his election campaign to honor the 1993 Oslo accord on Palestinian self-rule signed by the previous Labor Government, effectively assenting to a withdrawal in the West Bank. He then signed on to the process himself in the 1997 Hebron agreement, which set the terms for a pullout from most of the city and for further Israeli withdrawals in the West Bank.

"Policy is a combination of vision and reality, and we have come to terms with reality," said Dan Meridor, a Likud lawmaker who was a close aide to Mr. Begin and served in Mr. Netanyahu's Cabinet. "The new line of the Likud is that we are going for a compromise, but let's fight for every inch we can."

"It's not a black or white picture any more," Mr. Meridor added. "The question now isn't whether to compromise or not, but what sort of compromise, how big or how small. We're more like America, where the issue is who is more hawkish or dovish."

As ideological differences over the price of peace fade, conventional labels of right and left could grow increasingly irrelevant, giving way to new political alignments. Disputes between secular and religious Israelis, gaps between rich and poor and tensions between Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews have already emerged as defining issues for powerful political constituencies. "The political map no longer reflects the real divisions in Israeli society," Mr. Meridor said.

Avishai Margalit, a prominent Israeli political philosopher, said that after the latest accord, the public seemed to be shifting its attention from peacemaking to more mundane matters that impact directly on the quality of daily life, such as health services, economic opportunity and local politics.

"I call it the era of post peace, as if peace has already been achieved," Mr. Margalit said. "The public perception is that the ideological debate has been decided, the Likud has accepted compromise, and now it's just up to the lawyers to hammer out the percentages. We've already bought the apartment."

The World

Chile Renders a Verdict on Pinochet: Let's Move On

By CLIFFORD KRAUSS

SNAPSHOTS from Chile: Shortly after Gen. Augusto Pinochet was arrested in London five weeks ago on a Spanish warrant, neighborhood officials cut off garbage pickups at the Spanish and British embassies here. But a couple of days later cooler heads prevailed and garbage removal resumed.

A portly right-wing Senator, declaring his solidarity with "the savior of our nation," announced that he was going on a hunger strike until the General was released. But when legal proceedings bogged down in London, he quietly succumbed to his hunger pangs.

Exactly one month after the General's arrest, Walter Riosco, president of the Confederation of Production and Commerce, publicly warned that if the former dictator is extradited to Spain, "the situation in Chile will once again become unsustainable." On the same day, the Chilean stock market climbed, contributing to a sustained rally that has lifted the market's index more than 20 percent since General Pinochet was detained.

Such touches of whimsy have offered more than welcome respite from what may well be the most serious test of Chile's transition to democracy since General Pinochet left the presidential palace eight years ago. They suggest how much Chile has calmed in recent years, after decades of inflamed passions stirred first by the chaotic lunge toward socialism by the Government of President Salvador Allende, followed by the deadly coup in 1973 that propelled General Pinochet to power and began 17 years of brutal repression.

The general's arrest provoked demonstrations by rightist and leftist activists in which eggs and rocks were thrown, but these have lost steam with nobody having been killed or seriously injured. Some politicians have received death threats. But the police and armed forces have remained disciplined for the most part.

"I see the country as very, very stable," said Ricardo Israel, chairman of the political science department at the University of Chile.

The relative calm presents a contrast to the last few times Chile went through crises over issues of the past. In 1991, after the release of a Government truth commission report documenting the deaths and disappearances of more than 2,000 people during the Pinochet years, assassins took the lives of three political figures, including a right-wing senator. Three years later, soldiers appeared in the streets in a partially effective effort to block investigations of the military.

Now, once again, General Pinochet is dominating the news, and the nightly broadcasts of emotional inter-



General Pinochet's arrest has set off demonstrations but no serious disorder. A supporter shows her feelings.

views with relatives of those who disappeared have stirred memories that most Chileans would prefer to forget. Nevertheless, commentators have pointed out that such frequent broadcasts of interviews highly critical of General Pinochet and the army would have been unthinkable only a few years ago. Particularly penetrating have been reports about Operation Condor, the effort to seize and murder dozens of exiles living in Argentina and other countries, for which General Pinochet is being investigated by a Spanish judge.

But perhaps the most striking image to emerge from the crisis has been that of Foreign Minister José

Miguel Insulza, a leader of the Socialist Party that was once led by President Allende and that now governs with the centrist Christian Democrats, calling on the British to free the man who once forced him into exile.

"The last thing Chile needs is Pinochet as a martyr," Mr. Insulza said, expressing a commonly held notion that if General Pinochet were somehow hounded to death by his legal problems the country could still explode. It is a practical, political argument that suggests no newfound respect for the General. Rather, when Mr. Insulza repeats it almost daily, it is a reminder that the governing elite now bridge a political divide that

Passions from the General's era have been no match for the newer habit of stability.

was as wide as any in Latin America a decade ago.

"We had our own cold war but now there is a consensus in favor of private enterprise and democracy," said Jorge Schanolsky Brodsky, a former Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies and a member of the social democratic Party for Democracy. "While we still have a shopping list of issues, out of that shopping list we now only disagree on one and we agree on all the rest."

The issue on which Chileans disagree, of course, is still General Pinochet, who turns 83 on Wednesday and is in poor health. He stepped down as armed forces commander eight months ago, but remains a senator for life, a position that conveys legal immunity under a constitution he conceived as dictator. So he was weighing in on political issues until he was arrested. And his constitution will probably continue to grant disproportionate influence to two rightist parties and the military for at least several more years, even if the constitution is overhauled eventually.

BUT even if the panel of Britain's House of Lords that is considering his case allows General Pinochet to return to Chile soon, there are already signs that he has become a much diminished figure. Several influential conservatives have even suggested that the General should make some grand gesture upon his return, like an apology for excesses during his regime. A few have even endorsed a proposal by the Chilean Catholic Church hierarchy to reassemble the Government truth commission to gather more information on those who disappeared.

"If the General comes back, that will be the end of it and he will no longer play a political role," said Sebastian Piñera, presidential candidate of the conservative National Renewal Party. "But if he doesn't come back, he will be a player forever, especially if he dies abroad."

So the crisis is not over. The other day, President Eduardo Frei told a business group that the discord since General Pinochet's arrest "shows that our reconciliation is incomplete and we must work hard to strengthen that process in the future." Then he flew off to South Africa to start a nine-day global trade mission.

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Second Acts, And Beyond

Continued From Page 1

career insecurity a permanent part of the landscape.

At the same time, the restructurings that kicked some middle managers into the cold helped stoke a boom in the stock market that has left unprecedented numbers of workers and managers able to cash out and pick up new jobs or lives.

Social expectations have changed too. Workers today seem to be groping for more personal fulfillment than earlier generations did. The increasing pace of technological change, the vogue for less rigid corporate structures and perhaps even millennial ferment are encouraging the shift toward multiple acts. And in a mass-media environment, it can help to be a former wrestler campaigning against two dull suits.

"We're jaded," said Ms. Moses. "How do you get someone's attention when they're tired and distracted? If you're new and fresh, they don't go yawn yawn, blah blah and turn the page."

In some ways, all those factors are creating the golden age of personal reinvention. Entertainers like Sonny Bono and athletes like Jim Bunning and Steve Largent go to Congress or, like Bill Bradley, go to Congress and then go on to something else. John Glenn goes from astronaut to Senator to astronaut (a greenhorn the second time around because of advances in space-flight technology). Matt Drudge, the Internet gossip hound, licks journalists by serving up news as well as innuendo in cyberspace. The great entrepreneurial successes are Steve Jobs in his garage or Bill Gates dropping out of Harvard to start Microsoft.

EVEN when it comes to health, a lot of people, some motivated by rising costs, seem to prefer newcomers to medicine over old-line professionals. A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association reported on the astounding growth of alternative medicine in the United States, with 83 million people using some form of alternative medicine, up 47 percent over 1990.

A search of recent news articles turns up a chorus of reinvention — the artist turned psychotherapist, the accountant turned winemaker, the 76-year-old, first-time film director. To some, the message is that the traditional career path is kaput.

"The old rules have fallen apart," said Marti Smye, author of "Is It Too Late to Run Away and Join the Circus? A Guide for Your Second Life" (Macmillan, 1998). "You talk to senior team members at top companies and they're all thinking the same thing: What am I going to do with my next life?"

Of course, new paradigms usually have to coexist with old ones. Mr. Ventura probably won't have because his two rivals split the rest of the vote. The fact is that in politics, as in many other fields, the game is still rigged in favor of the traditional careerists and insiders over the amateurs and outsiders. And for every risk taker nimble skipping from career rock to career rock, there are nervous middle managers hanging on.

Mr. Ventura perhaps represents the glass-half-full aspect of the new careerism. In a new book, "Boomeromics" (Ballantine, 1998), William Sterling and Stephen Wells posit a future of 10 more economic boom years and then a decade as boomers try to sell investments at the same time and Social Security and Medicare stagger under the weight of too many aging boomers.

"People are going to have to reinvent themselves at later stages in life than we've ever imagined in the past," said Mr. Sterling, an investment strategist with Credit Suisse Asset Management. "We're going to be asking more and more people in their 50's and even their 60's to make employer and even career changes at a retirement community to choose. You get into the old dogs-and-new-tricks issue."

ISRAEL - THEN, NOW AND IN-BETWEEN

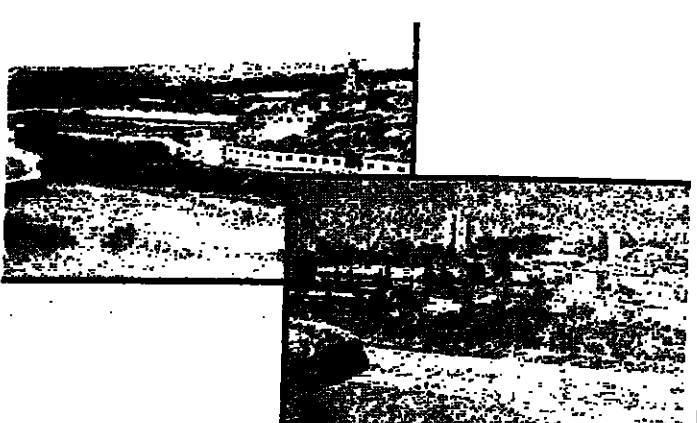
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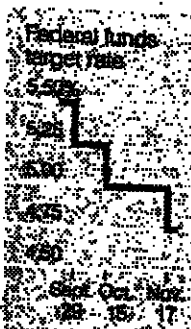
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ECONOMY

DIARY

A Third Cut in Rates,
But Don't Expect More

When the Federal Reserve cut short-term interest rates on Tuesday, its third cut in seven weeks, it also signaled that it was done cutting for now, because the markets had largely stabilized and because widespread hints that the economy was slowing remained just hints.

Happy to have the cookie but sad that the jar had been closed, the markets at first reacted tepidly — which probably suited the Fed just fine. Minutes of the Sept. 29 meeting of the central bank's rate-setting committee, released last week, showed members expressing concern that too big a rate cut would give the markets the wrong idea about the economy's health by exaggerating the Fed's worries about a slowdown. As it happened, the markets interpreted the Sept. 29 quarter-point cut as too small, necessitating a between-meetings cut on Oct. 15 to calm things down.

The economy continued to send mixed signals, with exports to Asia other than airplanes falling sharply and industrial production continuing to slip, but housing starts rising smartly. Consumer prices increased a modest 0.2 percent.

There's No Crises
Like Show Crises

Everything about theater people seems larger than life, including their meltdowns.

Livent, which tried against tradition to be a self-contained corporate impresario, financing theaters, Broadway musicals and touring companies with money raised in the securities markets, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection last week, three months after it said it had uncovered substantial accounting problems.

Sunk in the maelstrom were the company's founders, Garth H. Drabinsky and Myron I. Gottlieb, forced out by Michael Ovitz, the former Hollywood power who invested in Livent and took over control of the company six months ago.

The leading players immediately set about accusing and suing one another, with Mr. Ovitz saying the founders misled and defrauded him by spending Livent's money profligately and cooking the books, and the founders saying that Mr. Ovitz and Livent's new chief executive, Roy Korman, conspired to besmirch them and wreck the company.

Film and television also saw turmoil in executive suites. Frank Biondi was forced out as chairman of Universal Studios by Edgar Bronfman Jr., chief executive of Universal's parent, the Seagram Company. Peter Roth quit the News Corporation's Fox network last Monday after a dismal start to its fall season, following by three weeks the departure of Warren Littlefield from General Electric's NBC. Cable network veterans appear set to replace Mr. Roth and Mr. Littlefield.

Beset at Home, Japanese Banks
Abandon American Footholds

The giant Japanese banks, whose forays into the United States struck fear into American bankers' hearts not so long ago, have been brought so low by crushing overhangs of bad loans at home that they are selling off American operations at a rate approaching desperation. Executives close to the talks said Sanwa Bank was about to sell its American lending unit to Fleet Financial Group for \$700 million, a third of the original asking price. Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi said a big chunk of its majority shareholding in Unionbank, a California bank holding company, would go on the block, though the Japanese bank would retain a controlling stake. Fuyo Bank and Sumitomo Bank have also unloaded United States operations this year.

Northwest Airlines finished buying a controlling stake in Continental Airlines, though in response to regulatory concerns it bought fewer shares than it originally wanted. ... AMR, parent of American Airlines, agreed to acquire Reno Air, a struggling discount carrier in the West. ... The threatened pilot's strike at Federal Express was put off by 60 days, until well past Christmas, to allow more time for negotiations. ... A meteor shower that some experts feared would disrupt satellite communications passed harmlessly.

SO TO SPEAK

Party Pointers

The folks at Executive Communications Group of Englewood, N.J., which describes itself as "an international leadership and communications consulting firm," want to help business people everywhere be the life of the holiday party.

So they assembled some tips on "how to see and be seen," not only at the company shindig but also "when socializing with family and friends." Some examples:

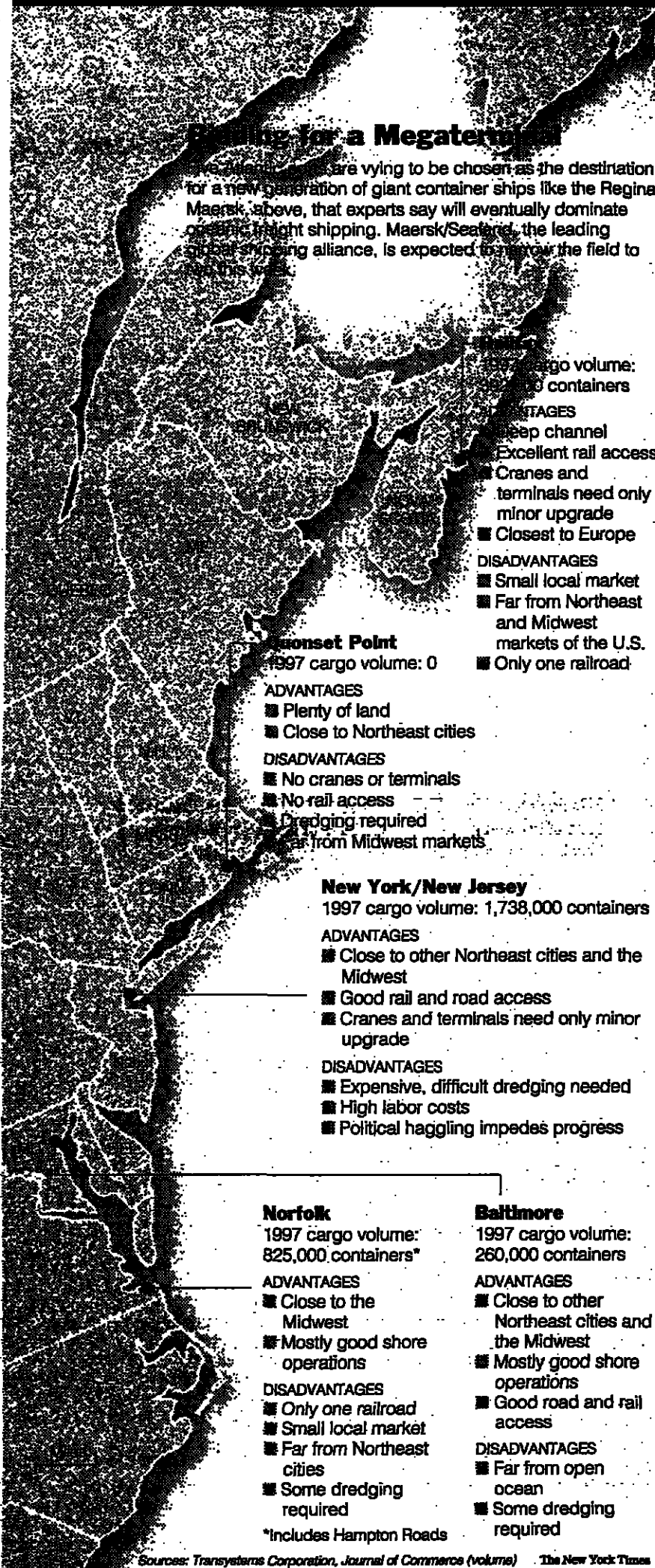
"Prepare for a holiday party like you would for a business meeting. ... Have an appropriate toast, anecdote or funny story to entertain your audience if called upon."

"Say 'memorable' things in a memorable fashion. You can do this by rehearsing."

"Depending on the event, dress appropriately."

"Having a positive attitude has its advantages for life and business, not to mention bringing an upbeat tone to the party."

But you wish you'd thought of those.

Raising the Stakes
On the Waterfront5 Eastern Ports in Race
To Be Home for Big Ships

By SUSAN DIESENHOUSE

THE megaships are coming. But where will they dock?

A new generation of immense cargo ships, more than 1,100 feet long and bearing up to 6,675 containers, is poised to capture a significant share of ocean shipping, but no port in the United States is now fully equipped to handle the ships when they are loaded to capacity.

Five ports on the Atlantic coast are competing to be the megaship destination for one of the world's largest shipping lines, the alliance of Maersk, owned by the A. P. Moller conglomerate of Denmark, and the Sealand unit of the CSX Corporation. Maersk/Sealand is expected to winnow the list to two finalists this week and make its final selection by the end of the year. At stake are billions of dollars of trade, investment and employment that will flow to and through the main deep-water port for half a continent.

Maersk/Sealand, whose current lease in the Port of New York and New Jersey expires in 2000, wants its next home to provide 25 years' exclusive use of a fully modernized terminal with easy road and rail access and waterways 50 feet deep, matching major world ports like Rotterdam, in the Netherlands, and Singapore. Operations that fit the bill cannot now be found anywhere on North America's Atlantic coast, said John M. Pisani, director of ports and domestic shipping for the Maritime Administration of the Transportation Department.

"The United States, the greatest trading nation in the world, cannot handle the greatest ships in the world," Mr. Pisani said. Continued absence of a megaship port on each coast "would be a critical blow to the nation's ability to compete in world trade," he added. Ninety percent of United States imports arrive by sea, and the Defense Department relies on commercial ports and transportation centers to supply military operations overseas.

An expansion project is already under way in the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif., that will allow handling of megaships there in about five years, Mr. Pisani said. On the Atlantic side, the port will be chosen from among New York/New Jersey; Baltimore; Norfolk, Va.; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and the former naval base at Quonset Point, R.I. The eventual winner will have to spend heavily to prepare.

Three dozen of the new giant cargo ships — none built in the United States or operating under an American flag — are already in service and 45 more are on order, some of them bigger than current models. Megaships already carry about 25 percent of the world's oceanborne containerized freight, including 5 to 10 percent of United States imports and exports (by scraping in and out of existing ports with partial loads). By 2010, they will carry up to 40 percent of world container cargo and about a third of United States foreign trade, excluding bulk commodities like oil and grain, according to M. John Vickerman, a transportation consultant in Reston, Va.

The engine driving the big ships' role is cost: Ton for ton of cargo, the bigger the ship, the cheaper it is to operate.

"Given their economy of scale, in the future the megaships will increase their market share and make as few port calls as possible," said Kurt J. Nagle, president of the American Association of Port Authorities.

Maersk/Sealand's search is precipitating a shakeout among North American ports that will be echoed when each of the three other global shipping alliances — groups led by P & O Ned-

loyd, Neptune Orient Lines and Hanjin — move to establish megaterminals of their own, Mr. Vickerman predicted. Ports that do not win one or more of the big terminals will be limited to secondary roles in a hub-and-spoke system like that used in the airline industry — and will wither further without modernization.

Upgrading a port to receive megaships can take a decade or more — and cost billions of dollars. Wharves must be equipped with a dozen or more huge container cranes, which can cost \$6 million apiece. Efficient handling of the huge flow of freight to and from the ships requires complexes of terminals equipped with computerized tracking systems. Quonset lacks all of these; Baltimore and Halifax need upgrades in these areas.

Cargo must be able to flow conveniently to and from the port on high-speed truck routes and modern rail lines with tracks and bridge clearances that can accommodate containers stacked two-high on flatcars. Quonset's land transportation links are rudimentary, and Norfolk and Halifax are each served by only one railroad. Halifax is also hundreds of miles farther than the other competitors from the continent's major population centers.

Shipping channels and berths must be dredged to a depth of at least 50 feet, a job that poses thorny environmental problems in some ports. New York Harbor would be especially difficult to dredge. Bedrock would have to be blasted in some places to reach the necessary depth, and sediments on the harbor floor are heavily contaminated with industrial toxins dumped over the last century. Baltimore, Norfolk and Quonset would also need dredging, though the work would be easier; only Halifax is now deep enough for a fully loaded megaship.

A lack of coordination among shipping lines, land carriers, environmental groups and port and government officials has long plagued efforts to keep American ports up to world standards, especially since the 1980's, when most transportation industries were deregulated.

Port and surface transportation officials complain that while 75 percent of the operating cost of a cargo ship is spent on land activity, they did not get to participate in planning the megaships.

"The carriers' approach to the port is, 'We build bigger ships; you figure out how to handle them,'" said Ralph F. Cox, a transportation consultant in Boston.

As a result, port development has lagged far behind ship development. "The advances in vessel technology have dramatically pointed out the shortcomings in the U.S. infrastructure," said Henry S. Marcus, chairman of the Ocean Systems Management Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

FEDERAL spending on port development and on freight transportation in general has been limited, Mr. Nagle said. The \$221.6 million for ports in the current budget falls short of the \$330 million needed just to sustain current maintenance projects, he said. The ports themselves spend about \$1.5 billion a year on capital improvements.

Other than making lease payments, the shipping lines generally do not help pay for improvements. But they have the upper hand, because they have more alternatives. Maersk/Sealand, for instance, feels no need to restrict itself to United States ports to serve American markets, said Tommy Thompson, president of Maersk. Feeding goods into the United States from ports in Canada or Mexico would do just as well.

As Mr. Pisani of the Transportation Department put it, "The carriers can move their assets around; the ports can't."

ECONOMIC VIEW
RICHARD W. STEVENSONJust a Bump
In Capitalism's
Long Road

STANFORD, Calif.

THIS does not seem to be free enterprise's finest hour.

Asian economies that were once vibrant have collapsed, sending millions of people who had pulled themselves up toward the middle class back into a struggle for survival. Russia's movement toward democratic capitalism is in shambles. Even the world's biggest and strongest economies are at risk from the global crisis.

So it seemed fair recently to ask Milton Friedman, the iconic advocate of free markets, if the free-enterprise system had not proved inadequate in an era of linked financial systems and contagion by microchip.

His reply: The problems in most countries are a result of bad policy at home and bad advice from the International Monetary Fund, not any failure of the markets.

Indeed, Mr. Friedman, whose libertarianism left him on the fringes of the mainstream starting in the New Deal and for decades afterward, was not conceding anything in the growing debate over whether the turmoil has exposed the limits of markets as a force for prosperity, democracy and stability. Now 86, and as willing as ever to argue his case, he was typically provocative in an interview about the interplay between ideology and the real world.

The fallout from the global crisis, he said, would inevitably create some setbacks in what he sees as a slow but inexorable movement toward less government involvement in the economy and greater individual freedom. Economists are again debating the merits of controls on capital, for example, and some countries, including the United States, are hinting at higher trade barriers to protect domestic industries from the ravages of a tumultuous global economy.

"There's always a tendency when things go wrong to blame the private market," said Mr. Friedman, who won the Nobel Prize in economics in 1976.

"Given that you've had these difficulties, there's no doubt there will be backsliding," he said in his office at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

The talk of global crisis,

however, is largely overblown, he said, noting that the United States and Western Europe remain in sound economic health.

But in a broader sense, Mr. Friedman said, much of the world is at a historical turning point, when a gradual acceptance of free-market principles on a philosophical level is beginning to translate into a fundamental movement toward market-oriented policies, institutions and politics. The implications for policy could be profound, he said, ranging from lower taxes to greater competition for public schools.

"It's my impression that you have long cycles of public opinion on the one hand and public behavior on the other," Mr. Friedman said. He cited the long delay between Adam Smith's "The Wealth of Nations," published in 1776, and Britain's repeal of the protectionist Corn Laws in 1846. And, he said, although the Fabian Society was formed in the 1880's, "it was not until just before World War I that Britain started down the road to the welfare state."

"The case for free markets and market economies, right after World War II, was held by only a very small minority who were looked upon as reactionaries of the worst kind," Mr. Friedman said. "In the period since then, the case for free markets has been won rhetorically. Everybody now believes in competition, believes in freedom, be-

lieves that governments should have a relatively minor role and that markets should be relatively free. That's the rhetoric, and it's reached a peak since the fall of the Berlin Wall.

"On the other hand, if you look at the practice, in the United States and also most other Western countries, government is more powerful, more extensive, more intrusive now than it was 50 years ago. In that sense we have moved backward and been following the prior socialist trend of opinion."

"I think we are sort of at the peak of the collectivist way," he continued. "Over the next 20, 30 or 40 years, the rhetoric — combined with the remarkable effects the Internet is going to have on our lives — will produce a decline in the role of government and a widening of human freedom."

Why the Internet?
"Because it makes it harder to collect taxes," Mr. Friedman said, referring to the difficulty of defining where a transaction takes place when it occurs in cyberspace. "Governments can get funds fundamentally only from resources that find it difficult to move elsewhere. The greater the freedom of movement of capital and people, the harder it is for governments. That's the kind of external force that is adding to what's coming from the intellectual tide of opinion."

As Mr. Friedman suggests, history can be slow to render its judgment. The crisis set off last year in Asia may indeed be just a setback, and not a new turning of the tide; it will take years to know for sure.

Milton
Friedman

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Henry Hyde's Confusion

The decision by Henry Hyde, the House Judiciary Committee chairman, to subpoena additional witnesses for reasons he could not explain outside executive session is a singularly bad idea for a very specific reason. It sends the Judiciary Committee hurtling down paths already meticulously explored by Kenneth Starr when Mr. Hyde and the committee's Republican majority ought to be searching for an exit strategy that would serve two valuable public needs. One is to allow Congress to move on to other business. The other and more immediately important need is for Congress to find a way to write into the historic record a condemnation of President Clinton for failing in his constitutional duty to uphold the rule of law.

Instead of moving in an orderly way toward that goal, the Republican leadership, and to some degree all of political Washington, are dashing around blindly. The leaders cannot seem to absorb the week's main political development. Mr. Clinton, barring the emergence of dramatic new evidence, has won the political battle over impeachment. Having heard Mr. Starr's evidence presented in its most damning form, the American people do not want Mr. Clinton removed from office, and the Republicans cannot muster the votes to accomplish it. Mr. Starr's testimony and the assault on his tactics by David Kendall, the President's lawyer, and others left the public and Congressional majorities where they started — in favor of censuring but not removing Mr. Clinton.

Mr. Hyde continues to look like a man riding a bicycle with welded handlebars. Does he really think he is going to find evidence that will change that consensus by calling Kathleen Willey's lawyer, Daniel Gecker, or President Clinton's lawyer in the Paula Jones case, Robert Bennett? These subpoenas represent a reckless assault on attorney-client privilege for no apparent gain. Mr. Starr, whatever his faults, did not seem to leave much room for new discoveries on the sex-and-lies front. Moreover, the fact that Mr. Clinton lied in sworn and unsworn situations to family, friends, the American people, the courts, his staff and perhaps his own lawyer has

been firmly established. If the committee wants additional testimony on potentially impeachable issues, it could more productively spend its time on allegations like subornation of perjury or obstruction of justice and hear from direct witnesses like Monica Lewinsky, Betty Currie and Vernon Jordan.

The most apparent need right now, though, is not for more testimony but for focused leadership. Mr. Hyde's current direction could lead to a successful vote in committee to pass articles of impeachment and send them to the House. Impeachment would then fail in the House, leading to the possibility that Mr. Clinton could escape without official punishment. That is a totally unacceptable outcome. To avoid it, Republican and Democratic leaders need to craft a stinging censure for Presidential misconduct that can be passed by the Judiciary Committee or, failing that, offered as a substitute measure on the House floor.

There are, admittedly, great pressures and enticing issues pulling Washington away from the main business of finding an exit strategy that gives Mr. Clinton the maximum punishment consistent with political reality. Many of those issues are undeniably important. For example, Mr. Starr's tactics, as highlighted by Mr. Kendall's critique and Sam Dash's oddly timed resignation, have to be fully explored. Both Congress and the Justice Department have to come to grips with Mr. Starr's disturbing hint that he might still want to bring indictments after Congress has finished with Mr. Clinton. Both bodies need to discover why Mr. Starr delayed informing the public of his findings on Whitewater, Travelgate and Filegate. The Independent Counsel Act, while seemingly doomed by public aversion to Mr. Starr, still deserves serious Congressional debate when it comes up for renewal next year.

But the overriding immediate need is for Mr. Hyde and the Judiciary Committee to start crafting a censure resolution before the start of a political skirmish that could allow Mr. Clinton to slip past the condemnation he so richly deserves and that history demands.

Protection for Abortion Clinics

Gov. George Pataki of New York took an important stand by proposing new state legislation to protect women and doctors against violence at abortion clinics. The Democratic-controlled State Assembly has passed similar legislation every year since 1993, but it has repeatedly died in the Republican-controlled Senate. The Governor has voiced support for such legislation in the past. Now he must demand that the Senate take up and approve this measure.

Mr. Pataki's proposed bill will be patterned on the 1994 Federal law that makes it a crime to block access to medical facilities. It will provide penalties of up to four years in prison for anyone who "intentionally injures, intimidates or interferes with" anyone entering a clinic. It will also allow private individuals and local district attorneys to bring civil lawsuits for damages against those who unlawfully obstruct clinic access. In addition, the Governor will create a task force of law enforcement officials, clinic administrators and advocacy groups to coordinate efforts to insure greater safety.

The murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian, who had

been threatened and harassed at the clinic in Buffalo where he performed abortions before he was shot in his home, may not have been prevented by a new law. But the battle against anti-abortion extremists must take place on several fronts. Political condemnation of violence is just as important as creating new legal penalties. Some might say Mr. Pataki's move is intended to tarnish his credentials as a moderate as he positions himself for a possible national campaign. But those urges show that he is sensitive to the importance of the abortion issue to women and moderate voters. His attention to this issue sends a powerful message that New York will not tolerate terrorism.

The response from some anti-choice advocates is disturbing. Michael Long, chairman of the state's Conservative Party, characterized Mr. Pataki's announcement as "pandering to the worst abortion extremists." But it is not extreme to protect women and doctors from threats and actual injury. Anti-abortion protesters are free to voice their views, but they cannot be allowed to prevent others from exercising their constitutionally protected rights.

Editorial Observer/TINA ROSENBERG

Trying to Break the Cycle of Revenge in Bosnia

Yugoslavia, it has been said, always produced more history than it could consume. Bosnia today has not one history of the recent war, but one each for Muslims, Croats and Serbs, all contradictory. The division of memory along ethnic fault lines has produced a cycle of killing and revenge in the Balkans for more than a thousand years. To try to break the cycle, some citizens' groups in Bosnia are proposing a commission to write a common history. The goal may be elusive, but it is well worth a try. The idea shows how more and more nations emerging from tyranny or war are designing independent groups, commonly known as truth commissions, to examine the causes and tell the full story of past crimes. But each country is adapting the idea to its own circumstances.

The Bosnian war has strengthened each ethnic group's sense of victimization. Many Serbs fervently believe only Serbs suffered, and if they acknowledge that Serbs killed, argue self-defense. Some Serbian war criminals are revered as heroes. The same is true of many Muslims and Croats. Because Bosnia's schools and media reinforce these nationalist myths, the children who are absorbing them will be tinder someday

Writing one history in a divided nation where myths can kill

when a demagogue like Slobodan Milosevic comes along to incite them to kill rather than be victimized again.

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, based in The Hague, was supposed to dampen these myths by personalizing guilt in individuals rather than whole ethnic groups, and prosecuting accused criminals of all ethnicities (although most are Serbs, who committed the vast majority of Bosnia's atrocities). But the tribunal can do little for this cause. It is far away, run by outsiders and has not been able to get NATO to capture the top criminals. People in Bosnia learn of its activities mainly through their propaganda-filled media. It has been easy for Serbs to dismiss the tribunal as anti-Serb.

All over the world, countries recovering from tyranny or war are finding that justice, while crucial, can play only a limited role in healing. In Latin America, for example, the new

democracies and their judicial systems were too weak to combat amnesties the military issued themselves. So they formed truth commissions as consolation prizes — if they could not attain justice, the commissions could at least officially acknowledge the victims' suffering and help them discover what happened in the secret torture chambers and killing fields. In South Africa, where the new Government felt less threatened by the old, the truth commission was able to offer amnesty to those who confessed their roles in political crimes.

Bosnia would need a different type of body, which should probably be called a historical commission since the concept of truth is so politicized. It would complement the Hague tribunal by allowing the Bosnians themselves to try to write a common account of the war, embracing the suffering of all sides. Dozens of citizens' groups, small political parties and the media are backing the idea, which was first set forth in a side agreement to the Dayton peace accords. Indeed, some Serbs have said that a post-World War II truth commission might have helped prevent the Bosnian war. Even leaders from all three groups have indicated sup-

port — perhaps because each is sure his group's version of history will be vindicated. The strongest reservations, ironically, come from the Hague tribunal, whose members fear that witnesses might choose to tell their stories to the commission rather than the tribunal. This is a reasonable fear, but the commission could be structured so that the Hague tribunal takes precedence.

A draft proposal written by the United States Institute of Peace suggests that the commission include Bosnians from all ethnicities, selected by an international board after public consultation in Bosnia and approved by Bosnia's collective presidency. The commission's chairperson would be a foreigner. Since the tribunal and domestic war-crime prosecutions exist, it would not be necessary to identify perpetrators by name.

The very pathologies the commission would be trying to cure could keep it from doing its job. The commissioners themselves could divide along ethnic lines. Hard-liners could try to intimidate witnesses, manipulate the commission or reject the report. But support for the idea among Bosnians of all ethnicities is a sign that it has a chance.

How Not to Conduct an Impeachment Hearing

To the Editor:

As Kenneth W. Starr wrapped up his testimony after 10 P.M. on Thursday, the Republicans gave him a standing ovation (front page, Nov. 20).

I'm confused. Were we watching some sporting event? That the Republicans rose to their feet and applauded Mr. Starr only pointed to the obvious truth about these hearings: this is partisan politics being played out in a game of exceedingly high stakes. This impeachment process, which Henry J. Hyde, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, repeatedly characterizes as the most serious issue any Congress will deal with, has become a complete sham. ABBY M. NEWMAN
Weston, Conn., Nov. 20, 1998

They should not be confused with entertainment. GAY B. PRIZIO
Chicago, Nov. 20, 1998

Starr Wins!

To the Editor:

Re "Attack by the President's Lawyer at Length Ruffles a Cool Witness" (front page, Nov. 20): Kenneth W. Starr testified in an honorable, admirable and obviously truthful manner. On the whole, the Democrats made fools of themselves, trying to zero in on the wrongs that had been committed during the investigation. Make no mistake, Mr. Starr clearly won this round. ROSALEE THOMPSON
Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 20, 1998

Photogenic Politics

To the Editor:

Re "Rancorous House Panel Hears Starr's Case for Impeachment" (front page, Nov. 20): It has been less than 40 years since the Kennedy-Nixon debates raised the issue of how a President looks on television. Is it possible that, amid the rancor that has come to characterize politics, it will soon be necessary for every President to evaluate the televised images of potential le-

Unfair Question?

To the Editor:

Kenneth W. Starr, the independent counsel, during his questioning by the House Judiciary Committee, replied to questions several times in an indignant voice: "That's unfair" ("Rancorous House Panel Hears Starr's Case for Impeachment," front page, Nov. 20).

I wonder, upon hearing that reply, what thoughts went through the minds of many of those who either had been helpless subjects of "professional" prosecutors before his grand juries or were investigated by his many "professional" interrogators. THEODORE SHERMAN
Boca Raton, Fla., Nov. 20, 1998

Attacking Starr

To the Editor:

Re Scott Turow's Nov. 20 Op-Ed article, "Prosecutor and Judge": Here was a man, Kenneth W. Starr, under vicious ad hominem attacks for every minute of the past four years, a man of unquestionable integrity who finally gets a chance to present his case and defend himself against the slings and arrows hurled by the Democrats.

He has been hounded by David E. Kendall, the President's lawyer, and called upon to account for his own actions — to what end?

If anyone came out of this investigation looking like partisan automata, it is the Democrats, who will look for any way around the simple fact that Mr. Clinton committed a crime. CHRISTOPHER HARTWELL
West Los Angeles, Nov. 20, 1998

The writer is a policy analyst at the Reason Public Policy Institute.

Biased Report

To the Editor:

Re "Rancorous House Hears Starr's Case for Impeachment" (front page, Nov. 20):

What impressed me the most was that Kenneth W. Starr never attended grand jury hearings or depositions, except that of the President. Instead, he relied only on the information given to him by his prosecutors.

In doing so, his report was not only biased in that selective quotes were given and by the fact that no witness faced cross-examination, but also by how the prosecutors chose to present testimony to him.

I kept wishing that during the hearings someone would answer, when asked why the only questions were about the demeanor and motives of the prosecutor, and not the President, that there was no need to question the prosecutor about his findings since his report was all basically hearsay. ALINE GRAY
Narberth, Pa., Nov. 20, 1998

Impeachment Is Politics

To the Editor:

The theater of the absurd continues with the pursuit of "impeachable conduct" ("Rancorous House Panel Hears Starr's Case for Impeachment," front page, Nov. 20).

The notion is based on the erroneous view, fostered by Kenneth W. Starr, the independent counsel, and his staff, that impeachment is a legal matter. It is not. Impeachment is a purely political matter.

And it is not a device to punish executive officers for conduct that involves neither a Government policy nor an exercise of Government powers. That is the office of criminal laws.

Impeachment of judges aside, the power of impeachment has been used exclusively to change those Government policies that were anathema to the people. Impeachment may be resorted to only if there are no other means for bending the executive to the popular will.

It is obvious that President Clinton's policies are approved by the people and that his alleged misconduct is not different by virtue of his office from that of many private citizens. WALTER I. SELIGSON
Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., Nov. 20, 1998

A Bad Example

To the Editor:

Re "Rancorous House Panel Hears Starr's Case for Impeachment" (front page, Nov. 20):

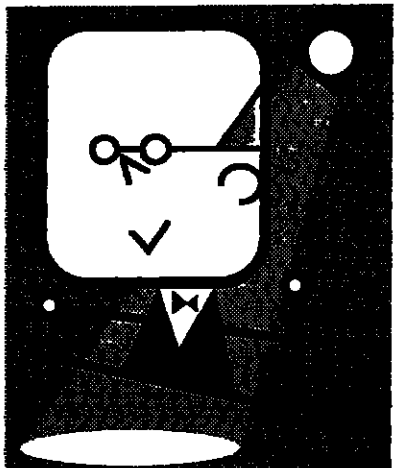
As a practicing lawyer, I was shocked and embarrassed at the performance by the Democratic members of the Judiciary Committee on Thursday.

As a class, they were shrill, emotional, unprepared and inarticulate. To say they were intellectually mismatched with Kenneth W. Starr is an understatement.

Mr. Starr's ability to think deeply was overwhelming. The Judiciary members simply lack basic legal skills.

They are unable to fashion or craft logical and concise questions. They have no apparent legal analytical skills. They can't reason (abstractly or otherwise) on their feet. They are uncivil, argumentative, arrogant, unprofessional and nondeberative.

The American Bar Association should take note. Perhaps some good can arise out of this exercise. I propose that every first-year law student study the tapes of the hearing as a quintessential example of how and what NOT to do. MICHAEL J. BUTLER
Massapequa, N.Y., Nov. 20, 1998



J.D. King

gal advisers, knowing that those he chooses will probably make frequent appearances on his behalf?

As we await the next installment of the hearings, we might wonder if the poll takers are busily divining what persona the public associates with a successful impeachment lawyer. FARNHAM BLAIR
Blue Hill, Me., Nov. 20, 1998

Where Was Debate?

To the Editor:

I was almost as disappointed in your Nov. 20 editorial "No New Evidence" as I was in the absence of meaningful inquiry at the Judiciary committee impeachment hearings on Thursday, during which Republicans dispassionately encouraged Kenneth W. Starr and Democrats challenged his objectivity. What was needed was an inquiry into several important legal issues.

First, the accusation that the President's claims of executive privilege constituted obstruction should have been explored.

While the courts ruled in Mr. Starr's favor, they conceded that the executive claims had legitimacy. Even the weakest legal claim, protective privilege, was supported by former President George Bush.

Moreover, you and Mr. Starr seem to accept as fact that the President lied before the grand jury. Are you sure that Mr. Clinton's statements were so marlful as to be outright lies? Instead, I'd characterize his statements as evasion, attempts to redefine questions and several refusals to answer.

None of these actions strike me as perjurious. FRED SCHACHT
Durham, N.C., Nov. 20, 1998

Comparing Counsels

To the Editor:

In his testimony before the House Judiciary Committee, Kenneth W. Starr said that he envied the special counsels who conducted inquiries in previous administrations because they concluded their assignments and went home in good order (front page, Nov. 20). Among them was Paul Curran, who directed an investigation involving President Jimmy Carter's bank loans and his peanut warehouse business in 1979.

Mr. Starr should emulate, not envy, Mr. Curran. As Mr. Curran's colleague for nearly 20 years, I can assure Mr. Starr that Mr. Curran would never have leaked grand jury materials, tried his case in the press or withheld a conclusion of no wrongdoing in matters as significant as Whitewater, Travelgate and Filegate. PHILIP A. GERACI
Mount Vernon, N.Y., Nov. 20, 1998

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Gore Had It Right

By Bette Bao Lord

Vice President Al Gore was widely chastised last week for publicly criticizing the Malaysian Government at an Asian economic meeting in Kuala Lumpur. The Star, a Malaysian newspaper, took offense at Mr. Gore's "gaffe," while Singapore's The Straits Times fumed that he had chosen "the wrong place, wrong time [and] wrong tone" for his remarks.

The reaction was kinder in the West, but not uniformly so. The Independent, a British newspaper, described Mr. Gore's remarks as "silly," while more than one American editorialist said he had made a gaffe.

Yet no one has challenged the accuracy of the Vice President's assertion that freedom and democracy are the "best guarantee of prosperity in the future." Nor have any critics taken issue with his contention that "democracy confers a stamp of legitimacy that reforms must have in order to be effective."

For proof of the vital connection between democracy and economic progress, consider the fates of countries that were formerly under Communist rule. The most democratic of them, like Poland and Hungary, are the wealthiest, while the most repressive, like Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, are also the poorest.

Some have criticized Mr. Gore for speaking out at the economic forum, which was attended by national lead-

Speaking up for human rights isn't being a bad guest.

ers and top financial officials. But again, the Vice President was right to be undiplomatic. Some leaders present deserved the reminder because they had pontificated about "Asian values," a doctrine that makes allowances for certain societies because they are said to thrive under autocratic, not democratic, rule.

As for Mr. Gore's having insulted his host, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad of Malaysia, remember that Dr. Mahathir is a leader who has blamed the Jews for his country's economic plight.

Mr. Gore hardly broke with precedent in violating the etiquette of diplomatic courtesy. President Ronald Reagan frequently attacked the Soviet Union, and in blunter language than the words used by Mr. Gore. On a visit to Moscow in 1987, Mr. Reagan lectured students on the superiority of America's free institutions and was the host of a reception for dissidents. These actions irked Soviet officials but did not impede progress toward improving ties between the two superpowers.

Mr. Reagan's departure from traditional diplomacy took place within the context of a consistent policy, which was to seek freedom for those living under Communism and the ultimate abandonment of the Communist system itself. Similarly, the importance of Mr. Gore's remarks will be determined by whether the Clinton Administration integrates democracy-building incentives into its foreign policy and whether the Republican opposition supports the measures.

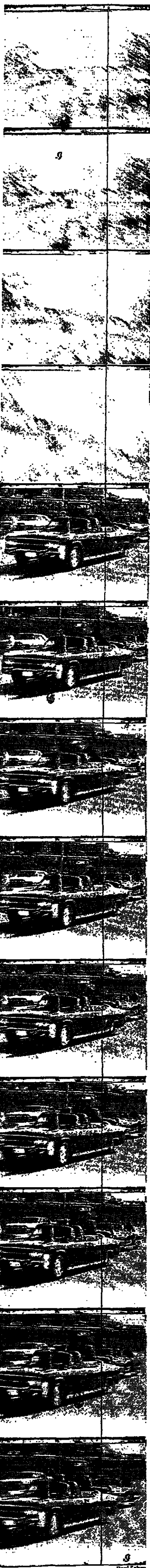
The United States has made free market reforms a condition for aid to foreign countries. Now we must send a similar message about the positive role of democracy. But that message must be consistent. It must apply to countries like China as well as Malaysia.

The message need not be curt or confrontational. It should stress the self-interest of foreign countries as well as our principles.

Some have warned that Mr. Gore may cause a backlash against the democratic movement in Malaysia, thus undermining reform. History proves otherwise. Two prominent former dissidents, Wei Jingsheng and Yelena Bonner, have told me they were disheartened when visiting American statesmen help local autocrats to save face — precisely what Mr. Gore chose not to do.

The United States has many instruments through which to express support for freedom's advocates — radio broadcasts and various forms of public diplomacy. But occasional candor by our leaders can be effective, too. Vice President Gore deserves praise for upholding both our values and our national interest.

Bette Bao Lord, the chairman of Freedom House, is the author, most recently, of "Legacies: A Chinese Mosaic."



The Unforgettable Afternoon

By Jack Valenti

On this day 35 years ago, the "ceremony of innocence was drowned," to borrow Yeats's phrase. At midday on that Friday, John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.

Even now, so many long years later, I remember every minute of the motorcade through downtown Dallas, past a drab building of undistinguished architecture called the Texas School Book Depository.

I was six cars back in the motorcade, in a vehicle carrying Evelyn Lincoln, the President's secretary; Pamela Turner, secretary to the First Lady; and Liz Carpenter, staff director for Lady Bird Johnson.

At the time I was a founding partner in a Houston advertising and political consulting agency. Over the eight years I had known Lyndon Johnson, I had helped him with a number of political chores. Some weeks earlier he had called me to say that the President and John Connally, then the Governor of Texas, had struck a deal for a Presidential visit to Texas.

"I'm against it right now," the Vice President had told me, "but it's a done deal. I want you to help out. Since this trip is going to take place, I want it to go well."

L.B.J. didn't have to tell me why he was opposed to the visit. The Democratic Party in Texas was in disarray, a dysfunctional family whose members were hissing at one another like rattlers in the brush. Senator Ralph Yarborough and Governor Connally were in venomous discord.

Nonetheless, the visit began with unreserved excitement. In San Antonio and Houston the crowds were immense. From Houston, I flew with the Vice President to Fort Worth on the night of Nov. 21. The next morning at a breakfast at the Texas Hotel, and again atop a raised platform across the street, J.F.K. was at the top of his game, his wit and charm inspiring loud applause.

From Fort Worth it was on to Dallas, where aboard Air Force Two the Vice President relaxed. "It's going great, isn't it?" he said to me. From Love Field, the motorcade began its journey to the Dallas Trade Mart, where the President was to speak to a crowd of some 2,500.

We wound our way into the downtown area and onto Dealey Plaza, past thousands of waving onlookers. Suddenly, the car in front of us leaped forward, racing from 10 miles per hour to 60. As our car tried to keep pace, we passengers, who had heard no gunshots, looked at one another with bewilderment.

"Don't worry," I ventured, "the President is late for his speech, and he's hurrying to get there." It was not wholly mollifying, but the alternatives were too bleak to consider. So we sped to the Dallas Trade Mart. When we arrived, a large crowd was awaiting the President. But there was no President. Now we knew that something was desperately wrong. A Secret Service agent told us matter-of-factly: "The President has been shot, as has the Governor. They're at Parkland Hospital." A deputy sheriff took me there.

Not long after I arrived, Cliff Carter, chief political aide to the Vice

Six cars back in the motorcade, the first reaction was bewilderment.

President, found me. "The Vice President wants to see you, now," he said. "The President is dead, you know." His voice was toneless. I began to sob.

A Secret Service agent, Lem Johns, took me back to Love Field and to Air Force One. The plane had been removed to a remote corner of the field, where two cordons of armed men guarded it. Agent Johns told me that no one knew the extent of the assassination plot, so it was battle stations for all security personnel.

Inside Air Force One, the Presidential office was crowded with Congressmen, police officers and Secret Service agents. Suddenly, in the narrow corridor connecting the office to the Presidential bedroom, the 6-foot-4 figure of Lyndon Johnson appeared. Representative Albert Thomas of Houston said quietly, "We are ready to help you in any way, Mr. President." This was the first time L.B.J. had been so addressed.

Johnson sat in a large chair on the port side and beckoned to me. "I want you on my staff," he said. "You'll fly back to Washington with me." It was not a request. It was a Presidential command.

Jack Valenti is chairman of the Motion Picture Association. He was special assistant to President Lyndon Johnson.

In the next five minutes, the new President made two decisions that, in retrospect, were brilliant, especially given the urgent challenges he faced.

He had talked by phone with Attorney General Robert Kennedy, who had urged him to get in the air immediately. Kennedy reminded L.B.J. that he was constitutionally President and needed no formal swearing-in to make him so. Get in the air and out of harm's way, Kennedy said. But Johnson demurred.

His first decision was that he would not leave Dallas without the body of President Kennedy on board. L.B.J. foresaw that he would be maligned for being so eager to be President that he left behind his predecessor's body.

His second decision was to be sworn in on the plane, before departure. He had already given an order that a Federal judge, Sarah T. Hughes, be brought swiftly to the plane.

L.B.J. understood how crucial it was to photograph the swearing-in so that the picture could be flashed around the world quickly. This photo would proclaim that while the light in

In his first hours as President, Lyndon Johnson showed a calm wisdom.

the White House may flicker, it never goes out.

The immediate problem was, Where to find the oath of office? My first official duty was to talk by phone with Nicholas Katzenbach, who I later learned was Deputy Attorney General. Where to find the wording of the oath, he was asked? After a bit of scurrying, the answer came back: in Article II of the Constitution.

L.B.J. asked Mrs. Kennedy if she would stand beside him when the oath was administered. She came forward from the rear of the plane, a few feet from the flag-draped coffin of her husband, walking slowly, eyes opaque. She had refused entreaties from her staff to change her pink jacket, now spotted with her husband's blood.

Thus the camera caught one of the most famous scenes in American history — the new President with his right hand raised, speaking the same words sworn to by every President since George Washington; Mrs. Kennedy to his left, eyes cast down and fixed with a disbelieving stare of unhinged grief; Mrs. Johnson to his right, solemn, full of wonder. The distraught, dark-haired man at the extreme left is me.

Much has been written of the so-called hostility between the Kennedy aides and the Johnson contingent on the plane. I never saw it or felt it. What I did witness was the grief of Kennedy's top aides, Kenny O'Donnell and Larry O'Brien. They were simply beyond anything as casual as hostility. Unhappily, there was one contradiction. Gen. Godfrey McHugh, military aide to J.F.K., became hysterical, even to the extent of trying to overrule L.B.J. when the new President ordered Air Force One to remain in place until President Kennedy's coffin had been brought aboard. It was a sorry, bizarre tableau.

Then we were airborne, headed for Washington. I sat beside the new President, he in the window seat on the starboard side. Midway through the flight, L.B.J. reached his left hand across my face to take a glass of water from the steward. His large hand, freckled and brown from the sun, was inches from my eyes. The hand was steady. Not a tremble.

Strange how that odd fragment stayed with me. Maybe it was because Johnson's calm was so at odds with the queasy, fearful embrace in which we all found ourselves.

I do not claim to be an accurate explorer of the mysterious and conflicting depths of Lyndon Johnson. But one aspect of his character I came to know intimately: the stern discipline that let him remain cool, appraising, even relaxed in those moments when the dagger was at the nation's belly. Many people would rightly apply that description to John Kennedy. But it fit Lyndon Johnson as well. On a nightmarish day 35 years ago, that was fortuitous for the country.

Note to Readers

The Op-Ed page welcomes unsolicited manuscripts. Because of the volume of submissions, however, we regret that we cannot acknowledge an article or return it. If manuscripts are accepted for publication, authors will be notified within two weeks. For further information, call (212) 556-1831.

In America

BOB HERBERT

Without Evidence

The prosecutors who brought homicide charges against 11-year-old Laciresha Murray for allegedly killing a 2-year-old girl now concede that Laciresha's so-called confession, obtained during a lengthy grilling by the police in Austin, Tex., was worthless.

"She never confessed to anything," said Gary Cobb, an assistant district attorney in Travis County who was the lead prosecutor in the case. "She said she may have accidentally dropped and accidentally kicked the child, which is totally inconsistent with the injury. So that played no part in what we did with the case."

(Mr. Cobb may have forgotten, but it certainly did play a part. Over the objections of the defense, Mr. Cobb's team fought successfully to have Laciresha's signed statement introduced at her trial.)

Laciresha, now 14, is serving a 25-year sentence for the fatal beating of Jayla Belton in May 1996. There was no forensic evidence linking her to the crime, nor were there any witnesses alleging that she attacked the child.

In interviews last week I asked Mr. Cobb and his boss, the Travis County District Attorney, Ronnie Earle, what evidence had convinced them that Laciresha was the killer.

"There's a great deal of evidence that taken all together is what points to her," said Mr. Cobb. He said Laciresha had the "opportunity" to kill the child because she had "access" to the room Jayla was in at approximately the time of death, "or at least the time that the child started dying."

When I asked what Laciresha had specifically done to Jayla, both Mr. Cobb and Mr. Earle said they believed she had stomped on her. And given the number of injuries, said Mr. Cobb, it was clear that "she did something else to her."

I asked what that might have been. Mr. Cobb said, "Well, she could have hit her with her fist. She could have hit her up against something. She could have kicked her more."

I said, "But you don't know whether she did or not?"

Mr. Cobb replied, presumably sarcastically, "We don't have a videotape of her doing anything."

I asked several more times about the apparent lack of evidence against Laciresha.

Mr. Earle said, "This is a child murder, a baby murder. Almost all murders of infants, of children, happen when just two people are present — the killer and the decedent. So there is almost never any evidence of any kind."

He then said there was evidence in this case and it "all points to Laciresha."

There were two trials, one in the summer of 1996 and another in February 1997, each resulting in a guilty verdict. The first verdict was thrown out. In that case, the prosecution theorized that Laciresha's grandfather, R.L. Murray, had been mistaken when he said he had heard Laciresha bouncing a ball in the house on the afternoon in question. The prosecutors said that what he heard was not a bouncing ball, but Laciresha slamming

The murder case against a child.

ming Jayla against the walls of a room less than a dozen feet from where Mr. Murray was sitting.

That theory was abandoned in the second trial. The new theory, never mentioned at the first trial, was that Laciresha had stomped on Jayla and that one of her tennis shoes had left an impression on the child's chest.

That theory, in the view of Mr. Earle and Mr. Cobb, is still viable.

Mr. Cobb told me last week, "We do have a footprint that matches a shoe belonging to Laciresha that we were able to match as leaving a skin impression on the child."

Mr. Earle described that as "fairly powerful evidence."

Neither of the men mentioned why such "powerful" evidence had not been introduced at the first trial. It turns out that the alleged match was bogus, even though it was presented to the second jury as "evidence."

As the second trial was approaching, the D.A.'s office put together photos of marks on Jayla's body with photos of a pair of sneakers found in the Murray home. They turned the photos over to the state crime lab, hoping, apparently in desperation, to have a match declared.

In a letter dated Feb. 5, 1997, Juan Rojas, an official with the crime lab, informed the prosecution team that "we were unable to testify that the marks on Belton's body were made by these shoes due to insufficient general characteristics."

In other words, no match. The jury was never told of that letter.

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

My Exit Strategy

It was many, many hours into the dull day in Washington history.

Ken Starr was giving that spooky smile of his and droning on with starchy phrases like "possible potential offenses," "at a fairly high level of generality," "not in a person-specific way" and, of course, his irritating tag for almost every observation, "and the like."

Detailing his endless, fruitless pursuit of Bill Clinton, he was like a prissy Elmer Fudd. I'll get that snappy rabbit... and the wife!

One could only hope that Maxine Waters, the gentle lady from California, would completely lose it and lunge for the prosecutor's neck.

This pathetic scandal is like one of those unfunny "Saturday Night Live"

rabid pursuit of Independent Counsel Javert and needed an outlet real bad. Besides, he didn't really tie under oath because the sex was too lame to count. Besides, he couldn't tell the truth because it would hurt his wife and daughter. Besides, it is none of our business. Besides, it depends on what the definition of "is" is. Besides, the stock market's zooming up again.

Kenneth W. Starr, Esquire: The counselor wasn't sex-crazed. He was just a lawyer in love with the law, the blind mistress with scales who sang a siren song and lured him deeper and deeper into investigating the romance between the President and the intern. He did not have any animus toward Mr. Clinton. For Pete's sake, he let him off the hook (O.K., so it was after the election) on Travelgate and Filegate and might yet let him off the hook on Whitewater. It wasn't an obsession because he was hardly even involved in that four-year, \$40 million marathon. He revealed at the hearing that he didn't attend any of the grand-jury questioning or depositions and did not even bother to meet Monica. His goons only manhandled Monica's mother, interrogated a schoolchild, investigated a witness's adoption of a foreign child and held Monica hostage at a shopping mall in pursuit of almighty facts. Monica's 10 hours in mall custody were a nice little "sojourn" for her, as David Kendall put it, and Monica was still able to shop and visit the food court under F.B.I. supervision.

Monica Lewinsky: She was only trying to adjust her thong underwear, not flash it. She really did have some fresh ideas on education reform. The Big Creep just wasn't listening.

House Republicans: They only meant to give the President a good scare, not drive him from office. They always understood it would be the height of hypocrisy to lynch the President for an office romance given the fact that so many members of Congress fool around with their own mobile aides and shed their first wives to marry babes who work in their offices.

House Democrats: Never mind the President's perjury and obstruction of justice and witness tampering and abuse of power. Parliamentary procedure was at stake — not to mention Mr. Kendall's shot at prime time.

Linda Tripp: She really needed to tape her best friend, a vulnerable young woman in need of guidance, because — oh good Lord, forget it. This one is indefensible.

... and the like.

skits that go on too long and get painful to watch.

The players are no longer thinking impeachment; they're just scrambling to save their credibility.

The Flummoxed Henry Hyde was flailing to keep alive the myth of the Judicious Henry Hyde, as he is routinely described. As Mr. Starr was spinning and grinning, Sam Dash was making a mad dash. Monica was holed up in L.A., watching her griller on the grill and preparing to spin and sob on TV with Barbara Walters and in print with Princess Di's biographer. The wacky right-wing blondes who hope to give conservatism legs and the Clinton apologists were still throwing food at each other on cable, but who could stomach it?

We need an exit strategy. I have one.

We must suspend disbelief, and cynicism, and give every single unapologetic character in this morality play the benefit of the doubt. They are all shy, enigmatic, cruelly misunderstood creatures.

Bill Clinton: O.K., he was just mentoring her. He threw her across the desk and mentored her 'till dawn, as Michael Kinsley once wrote about another office romance. Besides, the most pastoral of Presidents was really only ministering to a troubled young soul in his flock. Besides, he was under a lot of pressure from the

THE ARTS

Sometimes the Player, Not the Play, Is the Thing

By ALAN RIDING

LONDON It will come as no surprise to Nicole Kidman's screen admirers to learn that she also looks sexy and beautiful on stage, not least when scantily dressed. Yet this unremarkable discovery threw British newspapers into a veritable swoon this fall when she made her first stage appearance in 11 years. A few theater critics did actually notice her performance ("she can act"). But far more space was dedicated to poetic, erotic and clinical ("no — repeat, no — cellulite") ruminations about her body. The normally staid London Daily Telegraph was quite overwhelmed. "Pure theatrical Viagra," it gasped.

True, sex is the theme of the play, "The Blue Room," David Hare's loose adaptation of Arthur Schnitzler's turn-of-the-century play "Reigen," or round-dance, now better known as "La Ronde." Ten characters (Ms. Kidman and the British actor Iain Glen each play five) engage in a daisy-chain of sexual encounters. Copulation is suggested every time the stage goes dark, with surtitles coyly offering how long each of the 10 couplings supposedly lasts. And yes, for the briefest of moments, the tall, lissome actress does stand naked, her back to the audience, as her partner dresses her. But what is it with the Brits? This was theater, not live sex.

"I think there's an element of the British that is kind of pathetically grateful for a glamorous star gracing our boards," said Sam Mendes, who directed the play at the 250-seat Donmar Warehouse in Covent Garden. "Even those who have seen the play have written about something that isn't really on stage. This is not the kind of violently erotic 'Oh, Calcutta!'-style review that has been reported here. They wrote about the wrong things. They didn't write about the play."

The playwright seems to have taken it all in stride. "As far as the British press were concerned, the play was simply a chariot that was carrying Nicole Kidman into town," Mr. Hare said. "I don't think they noticed there was a play. Plainly, there was something magnetic about Nicole's presence."

Now, after eight weeks of sold-out performances in London, where the rich paid upward of \$1,000 for a ticket and the poor waited 12 hours for returns, "The Blue Room" moves to Broadway to test the response of a New York audience to the Kidman phenomenon.

Will they, too, scramble to view the 31-year-old Australian a.k.a. Mrs. Tom Cruise in various states of undress? The New York producers evidently hope so, since they have scheduled a longer run in a larger theater than in London. With previews beginning on Friday at the 900-seat Cort Theater, and the opening scheduled for Dec. 13, the 100-minute play involving, as the advertisements say, "10 intimate acts" and no intermission is scheduled to run through March 7.

For all the hype, though, Ms. Kidman's purpose was hardly to encourage voyeurism. Rather, having begun her acting career in the theater in Australia in the mid-1980's, she said she simply missed appearing on stage. After Ms. Kidman moved to the United States and married Mr. Cruise, she made her name in such movies as "To Die For," "Dead Calm" and "A Portrait of a Lady" (her latest film, "Practical Magic," opened last month). But, she said, she always preferred seeing plays to movies. And when she and Mr. Cruise half-settled in England while

shooting Stanley Kubrick's still-to-be-released film, "Eyes Wide Shut" (based, by coincidence, on another Schnitzler tale, "Traumnovelle," or "Dream Story"), she jumped at the chance of working in an experimental theater where, she thought, she would attract little attention.

"Well, yes, I have been totally surprised by the reaction," she acknowledged in a recent interview, accompanied by Mr. Glen, in a dressing-room at the Donmar Warehouse. "This is a small theater. I didn't want to start by doing something big on Broadway or on the West End. When you do theater, you want to explore yourself as an actor. And if

Did Londoners come to see 'The Blue Room' or Nicole Kidman?

there is a lot of pressure, it tends to stop you. I just wanted to work with Sam Mendes. I had seen his work at the Donmar. I had seen his 'Cabaret' and 'Othello.' We went to lunch one day and we just got on. He had a lot of ideas."

But bringing a movie star to the London stage is not an original one: Juliette Binoche, Kevin Spacey and Liam Neeson have all drawn crowds here in recent months. But Mr. Mendes was clearly taken by Ms. Kidman's eagerness to appear at the nonprofit Donmar — and willingness to do so for a weekly salary equivalent to \$400.

"When you meet her, her spirit is surprising," the 33-year-old director said. "She has a huge kind of child-like streak that is very engaging and very unexpected with someone whom you associate with film performances which are very severe. So I wanted to find something in which she could display that."

The chosen vehicle was the contemporary version of "La Ronde," which Mr. Mendes had asked Mr. Hare to write, using two actors to play all the roles. Schnitzler's original 1900 German-language version, which was closed down by police as obscene when it finally opened in 1921, was a satirical exposé of Vienna's highly stratified society.

Speaking of the original play, Mr. Hare said: "I think, crudely, you could say that at the end of the 19th century, Freud's contemporary Schnitzler produces this shocking revelation that sex and romance are used to manipulate, and that they are forms both of self-deception and deceit. His version is rather world-weary and cynical about La Ronde, or sexual roundelay: 'Here is this place where we all deceive each other.'"

"I have swung it round because I don't feel that at the end of the 20th century that's such a startling thing to say. If anything, I am saying, 'La Ronde is where we live — where else can we live? And hideous as the bruises are that we may take on on La Ronde, it's a lot better than being off La Ronde,' which is why I give the actress that climactic speech where she says, 'What's the alternative? The story is going to end badly, so what do we do meanwhile? At least we're on La Ronde.' I feel La Ronde is where you learn, while Schnitzler feels that La Ronde is where you got your heart broken."

Mr. Hare's version, which changes the identity, though not the social ranking, of several characters, also suggests that nihilism rather than

hypocrisy is today's social blight. Of course, in both cases, it is sex that breaks down class barriers.

So, Mr. Mendes was asked, did Ms. Kidman know what she was getting into? "I think if she had known what she was going to do, she might have blanched," the director said with a laugh. "But once it became part of an organic process, after you have spent six weeks in rehearsals, it grew out of the natural chemistry between the two actors. If I had told Iain on the first day, 'By the way, I want you to do a naked cartwheel in this scene,' he'd have looked at me and probably walked out. But it came naturally out of the situation."

It obviously helped that the two actors got along well. Before Mr. Mendes cast them together, Ms. Kidman had never heard of Mr. Glen, who has won accolades here for leading roles in "Hamlet," "Henry V" and "Martin Guerre." And, by the way, Mr. Glen had not seen any of Ms. Kidman's movies, either.

Even now, with Mr. Glen in loose shirt, scruffy trousers and no shoes and Ms. Kidman in elegant gray sweater, gray slacks and black boots, they seemed to hail from different worlds of entertainment. Yet after four months of working together, they have clearly become good friends. And for that, they also pay tribute to Mr. Mendes.

"Sam was never pushy; he never insisted on anything," Ms. Kidman recalled. "The actual scene in which Iain as the playwright is naked and he dresses me, the model, we didn't do it in rehearsals, only in the preview. But we felt that particular scene was needed because of who the playwright was and who she was."

Mr. Glen, 37, whose strong physique serves as a perfect match to Ms. Kidman's fragile beauty, concurred. "I thought that in an evening of sexual coupling, it might have seemed coy if at some point there wasn't full nudity," he said, "because there's a coital moment in each scene. It was just getting that balance right."

Well, since we are talking about sex... "We've spent the last three months talking about it," Ms. Kidman interrupted with an exuberant laugh. "Why should we stop now?"

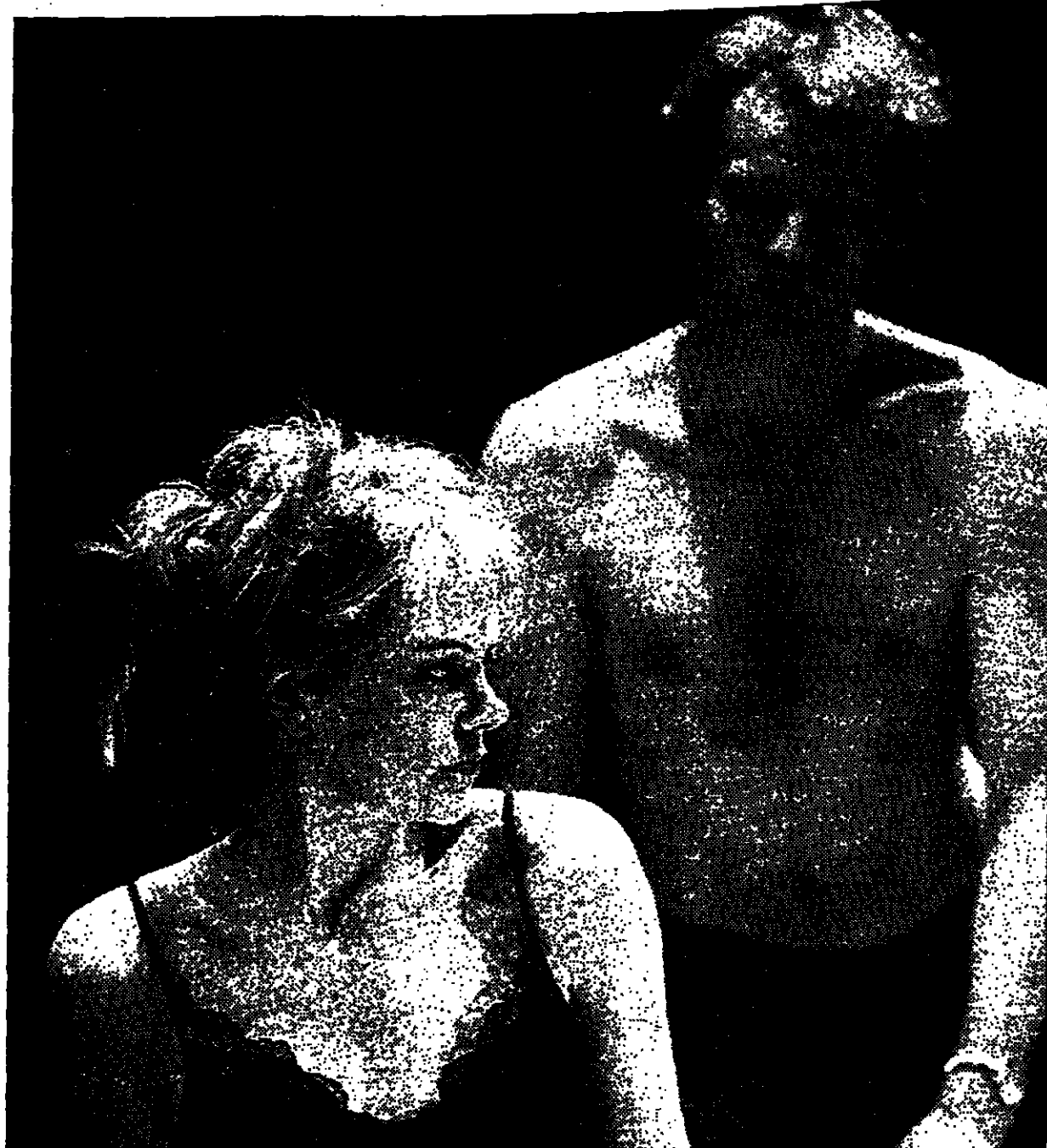
So, she was asked, what did Mr. Cruise think of the intimacy of the play? "My husband has done many things in films," Ms. Kidman said. "I have done many things in films. That's part of being an actor. And, I'm sorry to say, it doesn't provoke any fights in our household any more."

And the audience reaction? "You hear them gasp," she said with an embarrassed giggle. "In the scene between the politician and the model, when he — I don't know what word you can use in print. Well, you sense the tension because people feel relieved to laugh. When he asks, 'Is that good?' and I say, 'I don't even know what you're doing,' it always gets a very big laugh."

As it happens, it was not the play's sexiness that worried Ms. Kidman. Not having appeared on stage for so long, she was nervous before rehearsals even began. And before opening night, she said, she was terrified. The real challenge was playing five different characters in quick succession, each with a different accent: cockney, French, Australian, upper-class British and breathy actress.

"I thought, 'Oh, my God, I have bitten off more than I can chew,'" she recalled. "Why didn't I just choose one character?"

Mr. Hare said he was struck by how dramatically Ms. Kidman's performance improved once the pre-



Nicole Kidman and Iain Glen in "The Blue Room," a David Hare play in which brief nudity created a stir.

views began. "It was almost like those two weeks were her university of theater acting," he said. "My only sadness is that in all this hysteria it gets overlooked how damned good she is in it."

The actors' fresh challenge in New York will be to perform in a proscenium theater after working with an

audience on three sides of the stage at the Donmar. But, for Ms. Kidman, the perils of returning to the theater after a long break are over. Indeed, she is now looking forward to more frequent stage appearances, with the leading role in Strindberg's "Miss Julie" now provisionally scheduled for Sydney late next year.

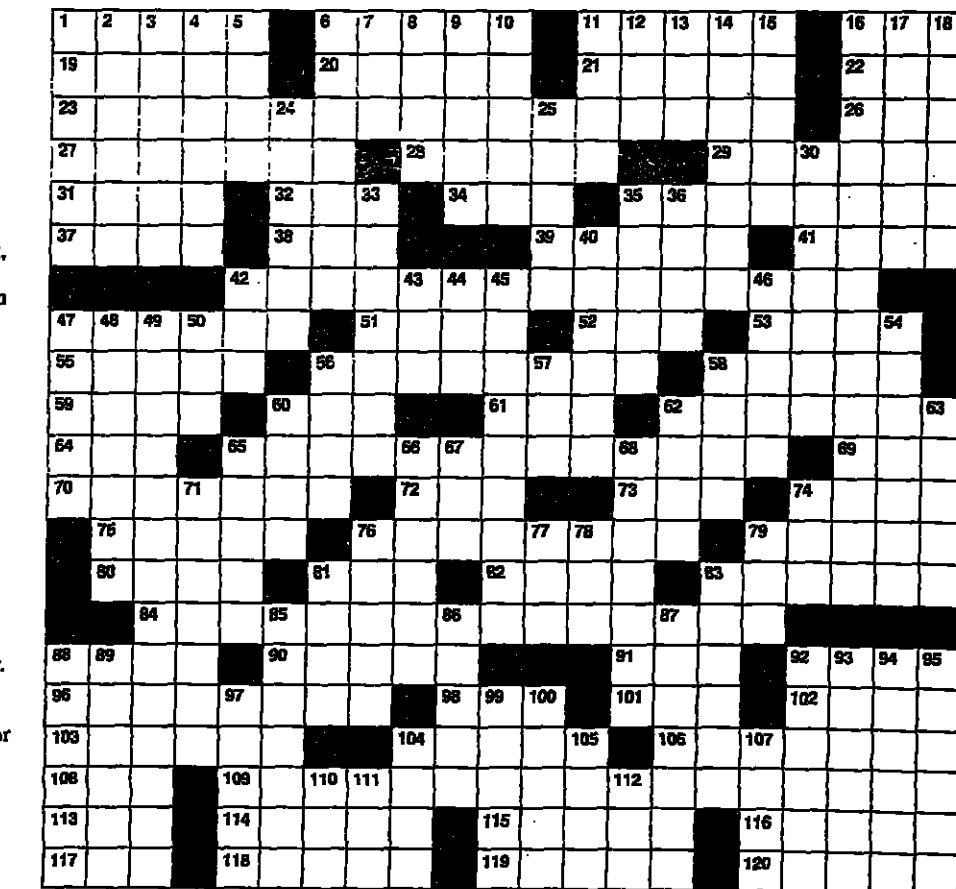
"As an actress, there are so few good roles in film," she said. "But there are great roles in theater for women of all ages. In theater, you grow, vocally, in discipline, it's the best thing you can do." She paused as if ready for a confession. "If you work just on films, you get lazy," she said. "You really do."

ACTION FIGURES

BY NELSON HARDY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Superman's father
- 6 Assess
- 11 Pang
- 16 Small ammo
- 19 "... in — tree"
- 20 Absorb the cost, in slang
- 21 Actor — S. Ngor
- 22 Certain investment, for short
- 23 Her car broke down
- 26 Short, for short
- 27 Horses
- 28 Hardly flighty
- 29 Supply
- 31 Mystical character
- 32 — Girl Like You
- 33 — (old song)
- 34 Sketch-based TV show, briefly
- 35 Deep-six
- 37 Mystic
- 38 "Whew!"
- 39 — Mio
- 41 Amtrak stops: Abbr.
- 42 He's exploring new terrain
- 47 Nationality indicator
- 51 Sweet-sounding Horne
- 52 Mandela's org.
- 53 Fizzles out
- 55 Licks
- 56 Cats
- 58 Spiral shell
- 59 Paper deliverers have them: Abbr.
- 60 Blink rapidly
- 61 Time keeper, at times
- 62 Uses mouthwash
- 64 Codgers' replies
- 65 He has mood swings
- 69 The Everlys' "When Will I Be Loved"
- 70 Helps with
- 72 Latin foot
- 73 Choice words
- 74 Nightmare
- 75 Certain sing-along
- 76 Genetic research aid, often
- 79 Branch of Islam
- 80 In the past, in the past
- 81 "Chuang-tzu" principle
- 82 Intensity
- 83 "Stay!"
- 84 He's gotten carried away
- 88 Taster
- 90 Soprano Lehmann
- 91 Practice
- 92 Goya subject
- 96 Yenta's quality
- 98 "Clay Time" (1925 song)
- 101 Speech with a lesson: Abbr.
- 102 Drafts, maybe
- 103 Value

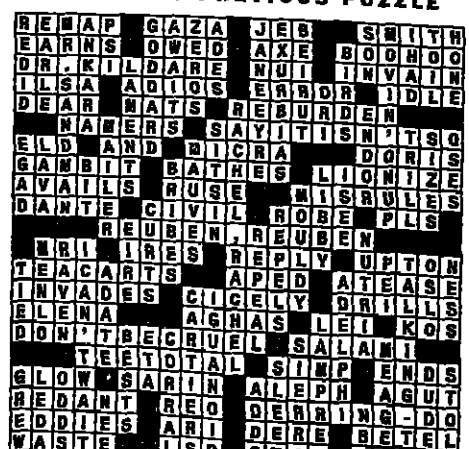


- 104 Unveiling cries
- 106 Beethoven contemporary
- 108 — Z
- 109 He's always asleep by midnight
- 113 Rag
- 114 Modern cartoon genre
- 115 Actor Jonathan of "Brazil"
- 116 Four-time Masters champion, to fans
- 117 Babe's abode
- 118 Challenges for college srs.
- 119 Strained
- 120 Inspirations
- 1 COMICS
- 2 Unclear
- 3 Get in sync again
- 4 Not so strenuous
- 5 Scientology guru — Hubbard
- 6 Makes a lot of progress
- 7 What to say to a doctor
- 8 Sporty trucks, for short
- 9 Basic ideas
- 10 Parrot Allen
- 11 Cousin of plop
- 12 "Alfie" lyricist David
- 13 Purge
- 14 Ballroom dance

- 15 Everglades bird
- 16 He has a lawyer
- 17 Londoner, e.g.
- 18 They fix locks
- 24 Longtime Playboy artist LeRoy
- 25 — Olay
- 30 Entry
- 33 Low socks
- 35 Long —
- 36 A util.
- 40 Gambled
- 42 Classic sports cars
- 43 The deep
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



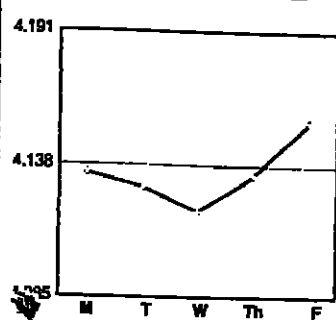
Iain Glen had not seen any of Nicole Kidman's movies before they were cast in "The Blue Room."

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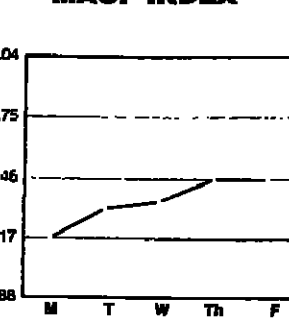
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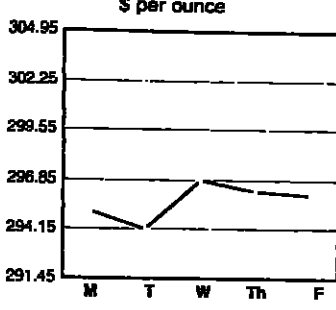
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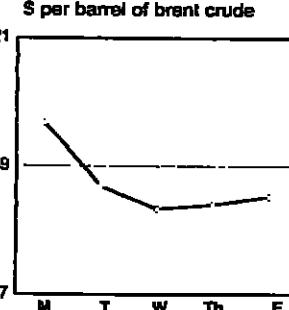
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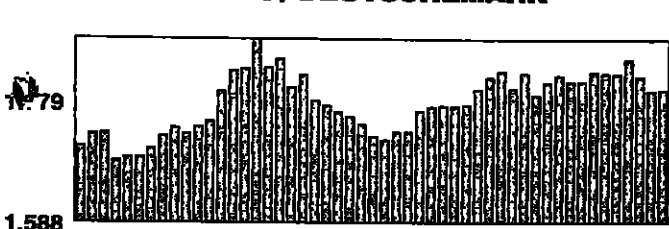
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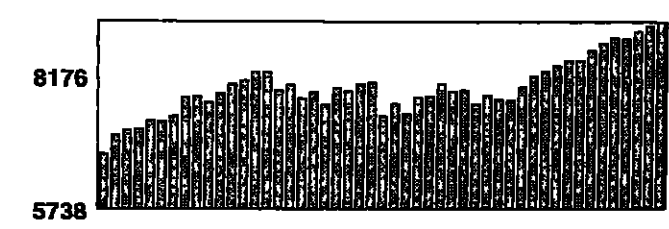
OIL



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



Customs Authority proposes purchase tax cut

Customs and VAT director Moti Ayalon is considering cutting purchase taxes on household items and increasing Value Added Tax by 0.5 percent-1%, he said yesterday. Items affected would principally be large appliances, such as refrigerators, and electrical entertainment goods such as televisions and stereo systems. Treasury Director-General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb said this is one of several ideas currently under consideration in Ayalon's department.

David Zev Harris

Moody's: Banks' profitability to decline

The profitability of the country's banks will be squeezed because of the economic slowdown, international rating agency Moody's Investors Service said in its *Banking System Outlook* published yesterday. The rating agency said that financial strength ratings of local banks may be most affected. Moody's vice president Andrew Cunningham added, however, that he does not think that this will threaten the solvency of any of the banks.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Zilberfarb: No need to decide on inflation now

There is no need for an immediate decision on the 1999 inflation target until the end of December, Treasury Director-General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb said yesterday. He said by year's end it will be far easier to see where the state of the economy in general and inflation in particular. There has been renewed ministerial pressure on the Treasury to raise its 4% target, especially in light of the recent sharp depreciation in the value of the shekel and the subsequent jump in inflation.

David Zev Harris

Neeman trip delays cabinet economy debate

The cabinet debate on the state of the economy and the inflation target for next year will take place on Sunday at the earliest, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's spokesman Aviv Bushinsky said yesterday. The discussion has been postponed because of Finance Minister Yankov Neeman's trip to Washington to try to arrange additional US aid to pay for expenses linked to the second redeployment, he said. Yisrael Ba'aliya ministers Nathan Sharansky and Yuli Edelstein yesterday expressed their disgust at the delay saying the debate and any decisions taken are of paramount importance to the shape of the economy.

David Zev Harris

Dun & Bradstreet: IAI exporter of the decade

Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) is the largest local exporter this decade with exports of some \$10.8 billion since 1988 according to a special rating of Dun & Bradstreet. Exports from the IAI amount to some 15% of all exports of Israel's leading 50 exporters. The report, which was conducted for the today's National Export Day organized by the Export Institute, shows that the country's 50 largest exporters had overseas sales of some \$70 billion.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Ken-Tech raises \$4m.

Ken-Tech Ventures has raised \$4 million from Israel Discount Investment, the company said yesterday. Discount has purchased 24.4% of the company which specializes in establishing start-up companies together with affiliate PEC Israel Economic Corp. and subsidiary Liraz Systems. The group holds an option to raise its stake for an extra \$6m. Ken-Tech specializes in managing start-up companies, allowing entrepreneurs to focus on the technological aspects.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Viag seen announcing \$8b. Algroup takeover

Viag, Germany's No. 3 utility, and Algroup, the world's No. 1 maker of packaging for the drug industry, are expected to announce as early as today that Viag will take over the Swiss firm, *SonntagsZeitung* reported. Algroup said last week it's in "cooperation talks" with Viag, which analysts said could lead to an \$8 billion takeover of the Zurich-based company. The two, which both have chemicals, packaging and aluminum divisions, would have combined sales of about \$36b. Spokesmen and board members of both companies were not available for comment.

Bloomberg

Sharon delays key energy decision

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday admitted the major decision on Israel's energy supply in the next century has been put back 12 months, according to a statement from the ministry.

The minister had set a December 31, 1998 deadline for choosing the type of energy source that will be principally used for generating the country's electricity.

However, the statement from the ministry said it, alongside the chief negotiator - Israel Electric

Corporation (IEC) - has decided "it is not necessary to take a decision on the construction of an additional coal-fired power station until the end of 1999 and at the same time there is no need to presently approve the future development program of the electricity market."

Ministry Director General Ya'acov Katz explained that there was no delay in the energy program but rather the ministry has postponed its decision to build a coal-based plant, allowing additional time to select a gas supplier, which is seen as more environmentally and financially viable

than the coal option.

A second statement from the ministry emphasized that Sharon will only consider purchasing natural gas from Egypt - IEC's preferred candidate - once Cairo officially expresses its interest to supply Israel. Sharon has insisted throughout the last year of cooled relations with Egypt that the first move come from Cairo.

Industry sources yesterday said the decision had been expected but was not to be seen in a completely negative light. "It keeps the Egyptian option alive," said one source.

There are several choices from which Sharon can choose, according to the sources:

- Purchasing natural gas from Egypt, which would be transported by pipeline, either through the Sinai or via a sub-marine pipeline.
- Agreeing to Egypt's preferred option of piping gas to the Israeli border. At that point, Egypt would construct a power station and sell electricity to Israel.
- Waiting for agreement with Egypt and in the interim relying on existing sources.
- Purchasing gas from Russia.
- Importing liquefied natural gas

(LNG) from any of four companies from Norway, Nigeria, Australia and one unnamed European firm.

• Deciding to build another coal-fired power station along the coast, which is facing widespread environmental opposition.

• Selecting two of the above options, one of which would involve Egypt, and this is the most likely scenario, according to the sources.

The ministry's spokesman said Sharon has instructed IEC to continue discussions in order to improve the bids thus far received.



Discussing bank's privatization

Italian Banca Nazionale del Lavoro CEO Davide Croff (right) listens to Budget and Treasury Minister Carlo Ciampi answer reporters' questions about the bank's privatization, in Rome on Saturday.

(AP)

BT report: Currency reform prevented deeper crisis

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The government decision to introduce the foreign currency liberalization last May has minimized the impact of the global financial turmoil on the local economy, according to a report published by BT Alex Brown, the international investment banking division of Bankers Trust International.

"If the country had opted to remain in a more rigid foreign exchange regime and maintained controls on currency trading, it would not have been able to adjust to the new equilibrium in an orderly fashion," BT said. "The loss of reserves and erosion of confidence in the economic authorities would have had long lasting consequences."

In a special report on the effects of the global financial turmoil on the Israeli economy analysts Izhak Krinsky and Andres Lederman said they don't believe that the weakness of the shekel has resulted from a significant and sudden deterioration in Israel's economic fundamentals.

They added that Israel should continue with its micro economic reform in order to reach economic recovery. "In our view, Israel should accelerate the pace of privatization, reduce the share of government in GDP, implement the tax reform and bring to a conclusion the foreign exchange market liberalization process," BT said. "This will enhance Israel's productivity and allow its products to compete in global markets."

The economists said that slowing world trade and Israeli exports are likely to present the most important drag to economic growth in coming months adding that growth in 1999 is expected to rise by 1.7 percent.

'TransCaspian' gasoline worth \$250m. for Israeli firms

By DAVID ZEV HARRIS

Local firms are likely to win orders for a minimum \$250 million once construction starts on the TransCaspian gas pipeline, according to Merhav Group president Yossi Maiman.

At least three companies are tipped to win tenders to provide engineering goods and services for the 2,000-kilometer pipeline that will take gas from Turkmenistan to Turkey. In Maiman's opinion, those likely to be involved include Baran Project Construction of Beersheba, Tel Aviv-based Ludan Engineering, and Bateman Engineering in Yokne'am. All three have worked

on previous projects with Merhav in its activities in the former Soviet Union.

Merhav is acting for the Turkmen government in the \$3 billion plan, which will transfer an annual 30 billion cu.m. of gas under the Caspian Sea, via Azerbaijan and Georgia, to Turkey.

The Tel Aviv office of Japanese corporation Nishio Iwai is also expected to become heavily involved in the project, according to Maiman.

"The TransCaspian is American-led, but we'll want European and Japanese participation," said Maiman, who said such widespread support will give the

pipeline international backing.

The pipeline, which will sit alongside the planned Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline, is perceived as a key element of the construction of an East-West corridor, which will allow countries such as Turkmenistan the freedom to trade while minimizing the fears of proximity to Iran.

A fortnight ago a long-term agreement for the purchase of gas was signed by the presidents of Turkmenistan and Turkey. At the end of last week, Houston, Texas-based Enron published the preliminary results of its feasibility study on the project. The company told Bloomberg the study was "encouraging."

"Now it's a matter of putting it all together," said Maiman. "It's not going to be too difficult to finance."

Among those competing to become the consortium leader are Amoco, Unocal with Conoco, Halliburton, Enron, and Bechtel together with Mobil and GE Capital. Construction is expected to commence within 18 months.

The Enron study competes with a similar report recently released by the Royal Dutch/Shell Group, which considered a separate line through Iran.

Germany's Lafontaine joins EU Socialist talks

BRUSSELS (Dow Jones) - German Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine made his debut on the European Union stage yesterday at a dinner with counterparts from 10 other left-leaning EU member states to discuss closer policy cooperation.

The ministers are set to formally release a document entitled "The New European Way - Economic Reform in the Framework of EMU," which they actually adopted last month. The paper outlines how the Socialist governments plan to use their new ascendancy in the EU to make growth and job-creation the top economic priority.

The document calls on the Frankfurt-based European Central Bank to pursue its price stability mandate "taking into consideration growth and employment. Such a policy must be conducive to credibility, certainty, and predictability." The paper also calls for closer dialogue between the ECB, employers, labor groups, and governments "to achieve a better coordination between monetary policy and employment and wage policies."

Left-of-center governments now

run all but four of the EU's 15 nations. The Socialist camp includes the four largest EU member states: Britain, Germany, France, and Italy.

Lafontaine and his French counterpart Dominique Strauss-Kahn are spearheading the drive for closer cooperation. British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown

has lined up behind them, although Britain will be staying out of the euro project for now.

The socialist ministers will meet at a Brussels hotel on the eve of the regular monthly meeting of all 15 EU nations, the first for Lafontaine who took office after his Social Democratic Party won elections in September.

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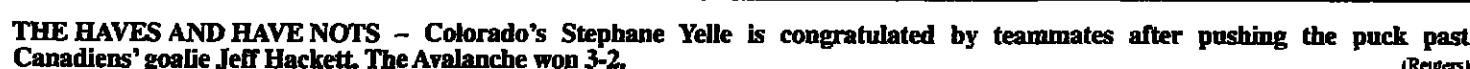
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Corbett 7 (Hartley, Loring). 1-44-3. Toronto.
Korolev 5, 12-32. Third Period-None. Shots on
Goal-Buffalo 6-5-7-18. Toronto 7-14-10-31.
Goalies-Buffalo, Hasek. Toronto, Joseph.
1-15-22



Tampa Bay 011-2
Pittsburgh 203-5
First Period-1, Pittsburgh, Hrdina 2 (Hatcher,
Brown) 15:06 (no). 2 Pittsburgh. Stroke 8

First Period-1, Dallas, Modano 3 (Sydai, Zubov). 8:03 (pp). 2, Dallas, Marshall 3 (Carboneau, Severyn). 18:15. Second Period-3, Dallas, Langenbrunner 3 (Marshall, Modano). 15:28 (pp). 4:1.

Journal 4 (Syllabus), 10.19. 3, Los Angeles,
Ferraro 2 (LaFayette, Murray), 19.21 (pp). Shots
on goal-Chicago 6-8-7-21. Los Angeles 11-8-
13-32. Goefios-Chicago, Thibault. Los Angeles,
Star. A-12. 011

Anaheim	7	7	4	18	42	41
Los Angeles	6	12	3	15	49	59
San Jose	4	8	5	13	42	44

WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Central Division					
	W	L	T	Pts	GF/GA
Detroit	10	8	0	20	57/46
St. Louis	7	5	5	19	47/41
Nashville	7	10	1	15	45/55
Chicago	5	11	3	13	38/66
Northwest Division					
Edmonton	10	8	1	21	60/50
Vancouver	9	9	1	19	59/49
Colorado	8	9	2	18	51/56
Calgary	7	10	2	16	51/56
Pacific Division					
Phoenix	11	2	2	24	43/22
Dallas	10	3	3	23	44/32
Anaheim	7	7	4	18	42/41
Los Angeles	6	12	3	15	49/59
San Jose	4	8	5	13	42/44

Butcher, playing in his 15th Test since making his debut against Australia took the second wicket then squared him up with a fine outswinger that was duly edged to

Fiorentina tied the score within two minutes, as defender Pasquale Padalino slammed in a loose ball

the ball the referee ruled that he had been held up.

"It was a try - a good try," said backs. Full back Mihai Vioresanu scored two tries to leave Romania trailing by just 19-13 at halftime.

victory over France on Saturday.

The French, who replied with tries from backs Thomas Lombard visitors and it took a fifth penalty from Jenkins, allied to some tight defence, to save the day for Wales.

where a victory would have

Continued from Page 24

Butcher, playing in his 15th Test since making his debut against Australia took the second wicket then squared him up with a fine outswinger that was duly edged to

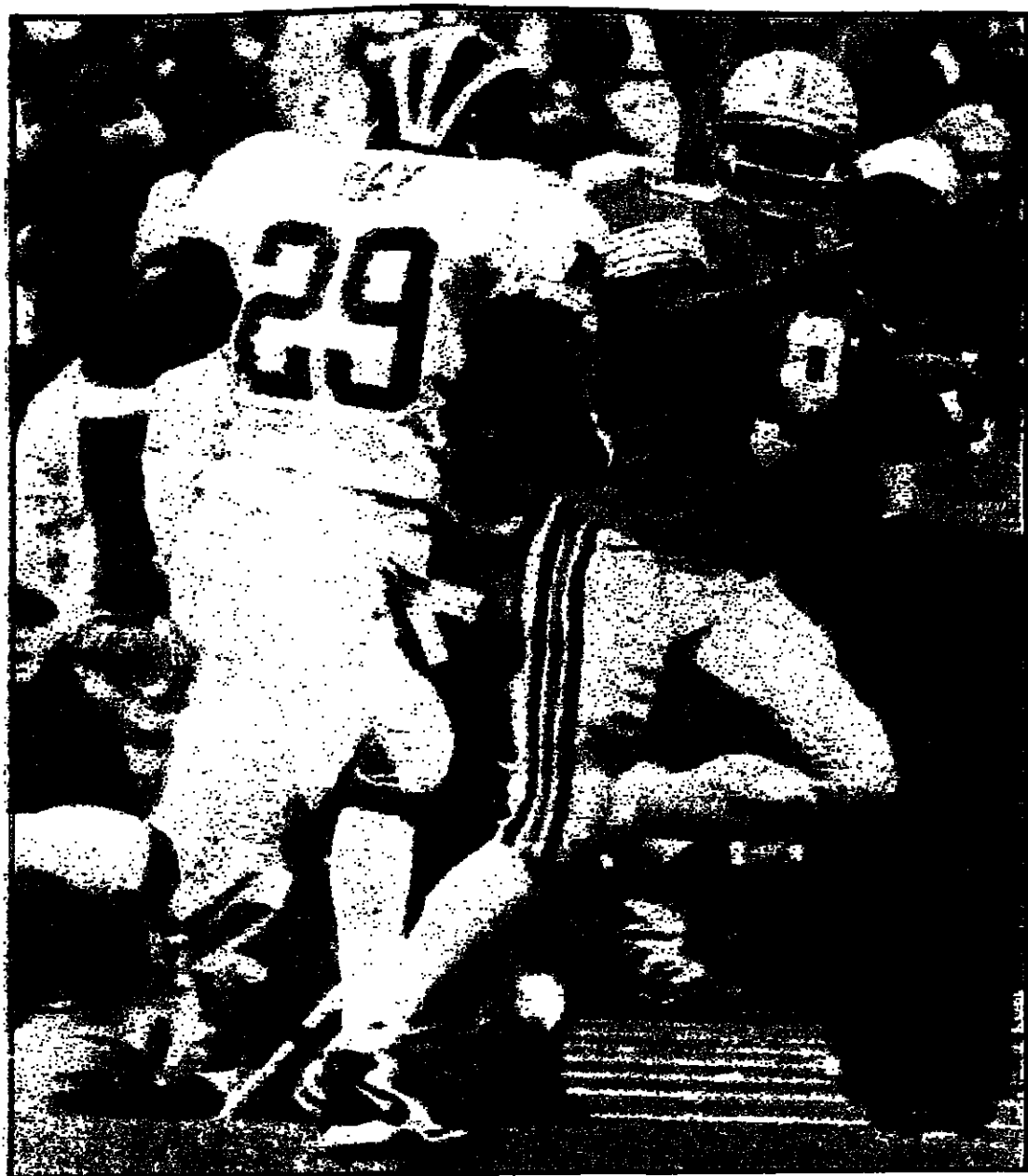
...logna 1, Perugia 1; AS Roma 1, Bari 1
Cagliari 1, AC Parma 0.

"It was a try - a good try," said

trailing by just 19-13 at halftime.

es from backs Thomas Lombard

ference, to save the day for Wales.



CATCH ME - Ohio State's David Boston (9) taunts a Michigan defender on his way to a TD in the Buckeyes' 31-16 win over the Wolverines. (Reuters)

Tennessee wins 10th straight

Seminoles take battle of Florida, Buckeyes beat Michigan

NCAA FOOTBALL

NEW YORK (AP) - Tee Martin passed for one touchdown and ran for another and Shawn Bryson ran for two scores, including a 58-yarder in a 24-point second period, as No. 1 Tennessee overwhelmed emotionally drained Kentucky 59-21 at Neyland Stadium on Saturday.

The Vols (10-0, 7-0 SEC) should remain in the top spot in the BCS standings that will determine which two teams play for the national championship in the Fiesta Bowl. Tennessee can complete a perfect season with a win next Saturday at Vanderbilt and a victory in the SEC title game on Dec. 5 against either Arkansas or Mississippi State.

Tennessee hasn't had an undefeated team since 1956, or a team that's this close to being in the national championship mix since 1951.

Kentucky (7-4, 4-4), playing for the first time since last week's truck crash that killed two men, including one player, and severely injured another player, was unable to generate any offense in the first half as Tennessee scored on seven consecutive possessions to take a 38-7 halftime lead.

"I could tell you after the first few series - we were flat," Wildcats coach Hal Mumme said.

Tim Couch, a pallbearer at his friend Scott Brock's funeral on Wednesday, was 35-of-56 for 337

yards and two TDs for Kentucky. No. 2 Kansas St. 31 No. 19 Missouri 25

The second-ranked Wildcats (11-0, 8-0 Big 12) got one touchdown pass and one TD run from Michael Bishop to complete the first undefeated regular season in school history.

No. 3 UCLA 34, USC 17 The third-ranked Bruins won their 20th straight game behind 109 yards rushing and four touchdowns from DeShaun Foster.

The host Trojans (7-4, 5-3) turned the ball over seven times, including four fumbles in 22 minutes, as they lost to UCLA for the eighth straight time.

No. 5 Florida St. 23

No. 4 Florida 12 Peter Warrick had a 32-yard touchdown reception and threw a 46-yard touchdown pass off a reverse as the Seminoles scored the final 17 points to beat the Gators 23-12.

No. 7 Ohio State 31

No. 11 Michigan 16 The Buckeyes beat No. 11 Michigan 31-16 for just the second time in 11 years to win a share of the Big Ten title. But Ohio State lost a chance to go to the Rose Bowl when No. 13 Wisconsin beat No. 16 Penn State 24-3.

Joe Germaine tossed three touchdown passes and host Ohio State turned a pair of punt mistakes into scores as the Buckeyes (10-1, 7-1) beat the Wolverines (8-3, 7-1) for the first time in four years.

David Boston caught 10 passes for 217 yards and two touchdowns and Michael Wiley ran for 120

yards as John Cooper improved to 2-8-1 against the Wolverines as Buckeyes coach.

Mississippi St. 22

No. 9 Arkansas 21

Brian Hazelwood kicked a 27-yard field goal with seven seconds left as host Mississippi State upset Arkansas to take control of the SEC West race.

No. 10 Notre Dame 39, LSU 36

Jarious Jackson passed for 276 yards, ran for 80 more and engineered the winning touchdown drive as host Notre Dame (9-1) beat LSU (4-6) to keep alive its hopes for a BCS appearance.

No. 12 Tulane 48, Houston 20

Shaun King threw a career-high five touchdown passes as host Tulane remained unbeaten.

No. 13 Wisconsin 24

No. 16 Penn State 3

Tom Burke had four sacks, and Nick Davis scored on an 82-yard punt return as the host Badgers beat Penn State (7-3, 4-3) to earn a probable berth in the Rose Bowl. Ohio State, Michigan and Wisconsin finished 7-1 in the Big Ten, but the Badgers (10-1) won the tiebreaker.

No. 14 Georgia 24

Mississippi 17

Olandis Gary ran for 132 yards and two touchdowns, and host Georgia (8-2, 6-2 SEC) stopped Mississippi (6-3, 4-4) twice at the 1-yard line.

Oregon St. 44

No. 15 Oregon 41 (2OT)

Ken Simonon ran for a 16-yard touchdown in the second overtime to stun Oregon (8-3, 5-3 Pacific-10) in one of the wildest of the 102 Civil War games.

No. 21 Georgia Tech 63

Wake Forest 35

Charlie Rogers scored three touchdowns and Joe Hamilton threw for two other scores.

No. 24 Syracuse 38, Temple

Dee Brown ran for two TDs, Quentin Harris returned a 47-yard interception for another as Syracuse (7-3, 5-1) won on the road to advance to a showdown with Miami for the Big East title.

College Football Top 25

How the top 25 teams in The AP's college football poll fared this week:

1. Tennessee (10-0) beat Kentucky 59-21. Next: at Vanderbilt, Saturday.

2. Kansas State (11-0) beat No. 19 Missouri 31-25. Next: vs. No. 6 Texas A&M, Dec. 5.

3. UCLA (10-0) beat Southern California 47-7. Next: at No. 22 Miami, Dec. 5.

4. Florida (9-2) lost to No. 5 Florida State 23-12. Next: TBA.

5. Florida State (11-1) beat No. 4 Florida 23-12. Next: TBA.

6. Texas A&M (10-1) did not play. Next: at No. 25 Texas, Friday.

7. Ohio State (10-1) beat No. 11 Michigan 31-16. Next: TBA.

8. Arizona (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona State, Friday.

9. Arkansas (8-2) lost to Mississippi State 22-21. Next: vs. Louisiana State, Saturday.

10. Notre Dame (9-1) beat Louisiana State 39-36. Next: at Southern California, Saturday.

11. Michigan (8-3) lost to No. 7 Ohio State 31-16. Next: at Hawaii, Saturday.

12. Tulane (10-0) beat Houston 48-20. Next: vs. Louisiana Tech, Saturday.

13. Wisconsin (10-1) beat No. 16 Penn State 24-3. Next: TBA.

14. Georgia (8-2) beat Mississippi 24-17. Next: vs. No. 21 Georgia Tech, Saturday.

15. Oregon (8-3) lost to Oregon State 44-41 (2OT). Next: TBA.

16. Penn State (7-3) lost to No. 13 Wisconsin 24-3. Next: vs. Michigan State, Saturday.

17. Nebraska (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Friday.

18. Virginia (8-2) did not play. Next: at No. 23 Virginia Tech, Saturday.

19. Missouri (7-4) lost to No. 2 Kansas 31-25. Next: TBA.

20. Air Force (10-1) beat Rice 22-16. Next: TBA.

21. Georgia Tech (9-2) beat Wake Forest 63-35. Next: at No. 14 Georgia, Saturday.

22. Miami (7-2) beat Pittsburgh 38-10. Next: at No. 24 Syracuse, Saturday.

23. Virginia Tech (8-2) beat Rutgers 47-7. Thursday, Next: vs. No. 18 Virginia, Saturday.

24. Syracuse (7-3) beat Temple 38-7. Next: vs. No. 22 Miami, Saturday.

25. Texas Tech did not play. Next: vs. No. 8 Texas A&M, Friday.

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Concert no. 2, Friday, January 22, at 12:30 p.m.

Concert no. 3, Friday, January 22, at 2:40 p.m.

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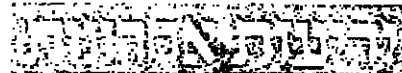
Alexander Pavlovsky - violin, Sergei Bressler - violin, Amihai Gross - viola, Kyril Zlotnikov - cello

Friday, December 4, 1998 at 8:30 p.m.

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ONE FOR THE HOMELAND - Nick Faldo (r) and David Carter hug after giving England its first World Cup of Golf title yesterday. (Reuters)

England wins first World Cup of Golf

WHANGAPARAOA, NZ (AP) - English youngster David Carter sank a birdie putt on the 18th to give England its first ever World Cup of Golf victory yesterday.

The 26-year-old held firm down the stretch alongside four-time Grand Slam title winner Nick Faldo to seal a 2-shot victory over Italy. Carter ended even par with Faldo on 8-under, giving US's Scott Verplank the International Trophy for the best individual score at 9-under.

Faldo was tied for second with Italy's Costantino Rocca in the individual competition.

England, which had finished second three times before but never won in the 43 previous tournaments, finished with 568.

Italy had 570 and the US, Scotland and Argentina tied for third on 571.

Carter and Faldo collected \$200,000 each from the total \$1.5 million prize money.

The US was 13-under for the final round. Verplank led the charge with a 9-under 63. Daly and Verplank led at 6-under through 16 holes but Daly struggled down the stretch, dropping shots at the par-5 17th and par-4 18th with near misses.

Germans call for new world record list

MONACO (Reuters) - A German proposal to scrap all existing world records and start afresh in the new century will be put to delegates at next year's International Amateur Athletic Federation council meeting in Seville.

Helmut Digel, a member of the IAAF council, believes the move is necessary to restore credibility to the world record list. If accepted, the year's best performances from next season will be recognized as world records from January 1, 2000, which will inevitably lead to a rash of record breaking in the new year.

Digel said some of the records had been set at a time when systematic state-controlled doping programs were the norm in countries belonging to the old eastern bloc.

He said documentary evidence from the former East Germany showed conclusively that drug taking was essential to the athletes' training programs.

"All through the '70s and also through the '80s there was this manipulation," he said. "But I don't want to take away world records. Let us start again in the new century with new records."

The women's world record list, particularly in the field events, lends weight to Digel's contention that some records may be tainted.

Ten world records set in championship events have remained unchanged since random out-of-competition testing was introduced in 1989.

The women's field events provide the most striking evidence. No world record has been set in the high jump, long jump, shot put, discus or javelin since 1989.

סדרה מן האמין

CRITICS' CHOICE

OPERA

HELEN KAYE

The key to loving opera is getting to know it, and the Israel Museum's series of seven Monday programs called *Sex, Lies and Opera* gets underway with New Israeli Opera literary manager and *Jerusalem Post* writer Michael Ajzenstadt presenting the lecture demonstrations.

Tonight he talks about Puccini's luckless tragic heroines who always end up dead, but not before they've broken your heart with some of the loveliest arias ever written. He spices the lecture with videos and live appearances. Tonight it's soprano Marina Levit, currently starring in the NIO's *The Little Magic Flute*. The series is not cheap, NIS 450, or NIS 80 per lecture. At the Israel Museum 7:30 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Alexander Korsantia plays Mozart's B Flat Major (K. 595) piano concerto and the Shostakovich concerto for piano and trumpet (with Robert Vanryne) with the Israel Camerata Jerusalem under the baton of music director Avner Biron. Also on the program is a symphony by Johann Christian Bach and the Israeli premiere of Mark Kopyman's *Beyond*. Tonight in Rehovot at 8:30 p.m.

GUITAR FESTIVAL

HELEN KAYE

Flamenco guitar has been a festival staple for years. This year it's the five member company of Flamenco Andaluz: guitarists Jose Luis Monton,



Ella Weich dances at the guitar festival.

Miguel Iglesias, singers Jose Anillo Salazar, Encarnita Anillo and dancer Ella Weich. Tonight at the Enav Cultural Center in Tel Aviv at 8 p.m.

Later, at 11 p.m. there's a tribute to jazz guitarist Wes Montgomery with the jazz quartet of Meir Ben-Michael on guitar, Igor Jodorkovsky on keyboards, Jess Koren on sax and Ilan Katchka on drums.

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Mendelssohn: Overture in A major op. 48; Strauss: *Ein Heldenleben*

7:07 Elster: *Sturm-Suite* for Orchestra; Bartok: *Sonata No. 1* for Violin and Piano (Fest) (Kopch)

8:05 Beethoven: Piano Sonata op. 106 "Hammerklavier" (Brenda)

9:05 Gershwin: Piano Concerto in F; Prokofiev: *Cinderella* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

10:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

11:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

12:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

13:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

14:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

15:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

16:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

17:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

18:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

19:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

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21:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

22:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

23:05 Prokofiev: *War and Peace* for Piano and Piano; Chopin: *Polka No. 1*

Beethoven: *Trio in E flat op. 70/2*; Brahms: *Piano Trio No. 2 (1903)*; Dvorak: *Trio in E minor op. 90*

10:05 Beethoven: *Trio in E minor op. 90*; Brahms: *Piano Trio No. 2 (1903)*; Dvorak: *Trio in E minor op. 90*

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Report: Steinbrenner to sell Yankees

NEW YORK (AP) — George Steinbrenner has agreed to sell the baseball team New York Yankees to Cablevision Systems Corp. for about \$600 million under a deal to take effect January 1, 1999, NBC reported on Saturday.

Steinbrenner and a group of investors purchased the World Series champions 25 years ago for \$10m. He will continue to run the team under the agreement, NBC said.

The deal would be the richest for a US sports franchise and second only to the pending \$1 billion sale of the English soccer team Manchester United to Rupert Murdoch.

An expansion NFL Cleveland Browns franchise was awarded to Alfred Lerner for \$530m last month and the record price for a baseball franchise is the \$350m Murdoch paid for the Los Angeles Dodgers this year.

Cablevision already owns Madison Square Garden and the New York Knicks and New York Rangers. The purchase of the Garden and its properties included MSG Network, which paid the Yankees \$486m over 12 years for their broadcast rights.



STILL ALIVE — England batsman Graham Thorpe hits a ball as Aussie 'keeper Ian Healy looks on during the third day's play of the first Ashes Test. Thorpe was not out for 70.

Butcher century lifts England

BRISBANE (AP) — Inspired by a brilliant Mark Butcher century, England put up a brave batting performance in the face of a daunting Australian total in the first Ashes cricket Test at the Gabba yesterday.

England resumed 432 runs behind on 53 for one. When bad light and rain stopped play on the third day, the visitors had progressed to 299 for four, comfortably averting the follow on.

On a day marked by high-quality batsmanship to match the Australian centuries by Steve Waugh and Ian Healy on the second day, Butcher led the way with his second Test century.

It was a timely return to form by the left-handed opener who went

into the test with woeful batting form — managing just nine runs from five first-class innings.

Butcher's 116, equaling his maiden Test century against South Africa at Leeds in August, lifted England as he shared a rollicking second-wicket stand with Nasser Hussain, who scored 59.

When the day's play was cut short by 15 overs, Graham Thorpe and Mark Ramprakash, the last recognized batting pair, were together figuring in an undefeated 59-run stand.

Thirty minutes will be added to the start and stumps on the fourth day today to make up for lost time.

Thorpe, playing his first Test since back surgery in August, hit 70 runs in a little over three hours,

while Ramprakash, after a nervous start, settled down to score 29.

Butcher and Hussain continued from where they left off overnight, thrashing the much-vaunted attack during a 134-run stand in 21 minutes over two hours.

The unexpected attack left Mark Taylor short of options before Michael Kasprudz finally struck in the 20th over of the day.

Australia quickly wrested the initiative with the gifted wicket of Alec Stewart when the England captain swept a MacGill full-toss to Kasprudz at square leg.

But Butcher continued the

onslaught with Thorpe as partner. England raced to 179 for three at lunch.

See ASHES, Page 21

Scoreboard

Stumps on the third day of the first cricket Test between Australia and England at the Gabba: Australia won the toss.

Team	1st Innings	2nd Innings
Australia	485	299
England	299	179

Mark Butcher c and d Mark Waugh 116
Mike Atherton c Mark Waugh b McGrath 0
Nasser Hussain c Healy b Kasprudz 59
Alec Stewart c Kasprudz b MacGill 8
Graham Thorpe not out 70
Mark Ramprakash not out 29
Extras (1b, 7b, 9b) 17
TOTAL 299 for four

Fall of wickets: 11, 145, 189, 240, 299 for four

To bat: Dominic Cork, Robert Croft, Darren Gough, Angus Fraser, Allan Mullally.
Bowling: Glenn McGrath 24-7-65-1 (2b), Damien Fleming 22-5-62-0, Michael Kasprudz 18-2-61-1 (3b), Stuart MacGill 16-2-57-4 (1b), Steve Waugh 3-0-17-0, Ricky Ponting 3-0-10-0, Mark Waugh 8-1-18-1 (1b).
Batting time: 370 minutes. Over: 64.2

French star Keller strikes as Hammers win 2-0 at Derby

DERBY (AP) — French midfielder Marc Keller fired a spectacular 20-meter shot into the roof of the net as West Ham scored a 2-0 victory at Derby County yesterday to move up to sixth in the Premier League and within five points of leaders Aston Villa.

John Harrison side-footed the first in the seventh minute after a low pass from Israeli midfielder Eyal Berkovic had found him unmarked inside the Derby area.

And Berkovic had a big say in the second goal 18 minutes from the end, picking out Keller with another pinpoint pass from the right and the Frenchman powered the ball home with a rising shot that flew into the top corner for his first goal in Hammers colors.

West Ham goalkeeper Shaka Hislop made an acrobatic one-handed save to keep out a header from Spencer Prior but Jim Smith's team created few other chances to worry a Hammers team who have gained 10 points from their last four games.

In Division One, Wolves overturned an early deficit to beat local

rival Birmingham 3-1 and climb five places to fifth.

Managerless Wolves are still eight points behind leader Sunderland, who lost for the first time on Saturday, 3-2 at home to Barnsley.

In a Scottish Premier League match yesterday, Dundee United lost 1-0 at home to Dundee.

PREMIER LEAGUE

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aston Villa	13	8	4	1	20	10	28
Manchester United	13	7	4	2	27	14	25
Arsenal	14	6	6	2	14	6	24
Chelsea	12	6	5	1	21	12	23
Leeds	14	5	8	1	20	11	23
West Ham	14	6	5	3	16	15	23
Middlesbrough	14	5	7	2	23	16	22
Wimbledon	14	5	4	5	24	19	21
Liverpool	14	5	4	5	18	21	19
Tottenham	14	4	5	5	14	14	18
Derby	14	4	4	5	15	17	17
Leicester	14	4	5	5	15	17	17
Charlton	13	3	7	4	21	21	16
Newcastle	13	4	4	5	16	17	16
Sheffield Wednesday	14	4	3	7	13	14	16
Coventry	13	4	2	7	14	20	14
Everton	13	2	4	7	14	21	12
Nottingham Forest	14	2	4	8	13	23	10
Southampton	12	2	4	8	12	30	10
Blackburn	14	2	3	9	14	22	9

Door open for Sainz to win world rallying title

CHELTONHAM (AP) — Championship leader Tommy Makinen handed rival Carlos Sainz a big chance to take the world title in the final race of the season yesterday when he skidded out on day one of the Network Q rally of Britain.

The Finn, who led the Spaniard by two points going into the three-day race around England and Wales, skidded on a patch of oil on stage five, hit a concrete barrier and the impact ripped the right rear wheel from his Mitsubishi Lancer.

Forced the drop-out of the race, Makinen, who was aiming for a third world title in a row, was left to

wait to see how Sainz performed. The Spaniard, driving a Toyota Corolla, needed to finish fourth or higher to take the world title for the third time although first since 1992.

Makinen was convinced he had thrown the title away.

"It happened on the first left-hand bend. There was black stuff on the surface and it just threw me completely," the Finn said of the accident. "I am very upset. I have thrown the championship away."

After 11 of the 14 stages on day one, Sainz placed second to another world title, Colin McRae, who led the Spaniard by 4.6 seconds in a Subaru Impreza.

Ben Johnson a non-starter

By HEATHER CHAIT

Ben Johnson will not run on Israeli soil.

Although no final decision had been handed down by the International Amateur Athletics Federation in Monte Carlo by last night, Maccabi officials chose to bow gracefully out of the race against the clock.

"When the Hador Yosef stadium withdrew their original invite for Ben, there was little reason to hold the race," said Maccabi Tel Aviv athletics club chairman Ephraim Biderman last night. "It just seemed disrespectful to him."

Johnson spent yesterday with athletes, appraising the local standard.

Today he will be in Jerusalem, visiting Yad Vashem and other sites.

He leaves Israel on Wednesday.

SCOREBOARD

TURKISH SOCCER — Israel international striker Roman Hazard scored two goals in the side's 2-0 win over Trabzonspor yesterday.

SPANISH SOCCER — First division results: Villarreal 1, Salamanca 2; Extremadura 1; Espanyol 1, Racing Santander 1; Atletico Madrid 6, Valladolid 1; Real Sociedad 0, Real Zaragoza 0; Alaves 2, Celta Vigo 0; Mallorca 1, Barcelona 0; Oviedo 0, Real Betis 1; Valencia 3, Real Madrid 1; Tenerife 0, Athletic Bilbao 1.

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Hingis wins Chase title

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Second seed Martina Hingis fought her way back to the winner's circle yesterday by beating top seed and world No. 1 Lindsay Davenport in the final of the season-ending Chase Championships.

The 18-year-old Hingis ended a six-month title drought with a convincing 7-5, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 victory to claim one of the very few big titles she hadn't yet won, one which her namesake, Martina Navratilova, won a record eight times.

With the victory, Hingis avenged her US Open final loss to Davenport, the player who last month also took over the top ranking that Hingis had held for 80 consecutive weeks.

"She kicked me out of the top spot but I'll be definitely fighting for it next year," said the beaming Swiss teen after accepting her trophy and a check for \$500,000.

Hingis, who finished the year with five titles including the Australian Open, walks away from 1998 with \$3,175,631 in tournament earnings, the second consecutive year that she has cracked the \$3 million barrier.

It was a breakthrough year for Davenport, who claimed her first career Grand Slam title in



Martina Hingis in action against Lindsay Davenport at the Chase Championships final in New York.

September. But she ran out of steam at the end.

"It's been a great year, especially the last six months," said Davenport, who won a tour-leading six titles in 1998, five of them since July.

"I'm a little disappointed about

how I ended the year but I'll get over it in a few hours," added the 22-year-old American, who picked up \$250,000 as runner-up and another \$100,000 for winning the doubles on Saturday with Natasha Zvereva to finish the \$2,697,788 richer.

French skier shocks field to win slalom

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — Pierrick Bourgeat of France, mastering a course badly rutted by snow and warming temperatures, skied from 14th place to a stunning victory yesterday in a men's World Cup slalom.

Bourgeat, whose best previous performance was a second last year, made up over two seconds on the field in the afternoon run, thanks in large part to his skill at maneuvering through runs that tossed around his competition like rag dolls.

A second run of 51.19 seconds, although not the fastest of the afternoon, was 1.5 or more seconds ahead of anyone else who skied late in the session.

Bourgeat completed two runs in 1 minute, 43.34 seconds, a healthy .44 seconds faster than Norway's Olympic champion, Hans-Peter Buaas, who led the Frenchman by 1.67 seconds after a Sunday morning session that took place during a snowstorm.

Although blue skies reappeared for the second run, an army of course workers was unable to sweep away the snow cover, and the racers soon turned that loose snow into huge ruts, particularly on the gates midway down the steep portion of the Clermontine layout.

Austria's Christian Mayer, who would claim third in

1:44.02, had just finished when the five heavy hitters from the first run, four Norwegians and a Slovenian, lined up to try their luck.

Each charged from the gate and handled the top gates well, but each then was jostled from gate to gate midway down the steep. Slovenia's Jure Kosir, second in the morning, almost came to a halt after crashing into one of the ruts, a collision that helped drop him to 12th.

Buaas came closest to mastering the mid-steep minefield, although he couldn't approach Bourgeat's time. Kjell Andre Amundt, a close fifth in the morning, fell to a tie for ninth and teammate, Ole Kristian Furuseth slipped from fourth to 16th.

First-run leader Finn Christian Jagge, who enjoyed a 1.89-second bulge over Bourgeat after the first run, slipped back to a tie for fourth with Germany's Markus Eberle in 1:44.06, losing an amazing 2.61 seconds to the Frenchman.

It was the first French slalom victory since a 1996 triumph by Sebastian Amiez, who settled for sixth on Sunday. Rounding out the top 10 were Austria's Thomas Stangassinger, Canada's Thomas Grandi and, tied for ninth, Austria's and France's...

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Jerusalem 22/11
Tel Aviv 27/14
Haifa 28/17
Beersheva 27/13
Ariel 25/9
Katzrin 24/5
Tiberias 31/12

Israel: Sunny and warm today into tomorrow; a shower is possible in northern mountains tomorrow. Highs 24 north, 22 south.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today	High	Low	Today	High	Low
Ariel	27/14	27/14	13/5/5	27/14	27/14	13/5/5
Beersheva	27/13	27/13	13/5/5	27/13	27/13	13/5/5
Dead Sea	31/88	31/88	18/1/1	31/88	31/88	18/1/1
Elit	28/18	28/18	13/5/5	28/18	28/18	13/5/5
Haifa	28/17	28/17	13/5/5	28/17	28/17	13/5/5
Jerusalem	22/11	22/11	10/5/5	22/11	22/11	10/5/5
Katzrin	24/5	24/5	13/5/5	24/5	24/5	13/5/5
Netanya	27/18	27/18	13/5/5	27/18	27/18	13/5/5
Tel Aviv	27/18	27/18	13/5/5	27/18	27/18	13/5/5
Tiberias	31/88	31/88	18/1/1	31/88	31/88	18/1/1

Weather (W): sunny; partly cloudy, cloudy, drizzle, showers, thunderstorms, rain, sleet, snow, hail, snow, fog.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	High	Low	Today	High	Low
Amsterdam	10/5	10/5	4/3	10/5	10/5	4/3
Beijing	5/1	5/1	-2/3	5/1	5/1	-2/3
Bombay	30/7	30/7	24/16	30/7	30/7	24/16
Buenos Aires	28/8	28/8	18/10	28/8	28/8	18/10
Calcutta	28/8	28/8	18/10	28/8	28/8	18/10
Chicago	18/1	18/1	12/3	18/1	18/1	12/3
Frankfurt	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7
Hong Kong	24/75	24/75	20/10	24/75	24/75	20/10
Johns Hopkins	28/78	28/78	17/22	28/78	28/78	17/22
London	8/4	8/4	3/7	8/4	8/4	3/7
Los Angeles	21/70	21/70	13/5	21/70	21/70	13/5
Madrid	10/5	10/5	4/3	10/5	10/5	4/3
Mexico City	28/8	28/8	18/10	28/8	28/8	18/10
Montreal	6/4	6/4	1/3	6/4	6/4	1/3
Moscow	-1/1	-1/1	-2/3	-1/1	-1/1	-2/3
New York	18/1	18/1	12/3	18/1	18/1	12/3
Paris	10/5	10/5	4/3	10/5	10/5	4/3
Peking	5/1	5/1	-2/3	5/1	5/1	-2/3
Rio de Janeiro	23/73	23/73	17/22	23/73	23/73	17/22
Rome	11/52	11/52	6/4	11/52	11/52	6/4
Sydney	23/73	23/73	17/22	23/73	23/73	17/22
Tel Aviv	27/18	27/18	13/5/5	27/18	27/18	13/5/5
Toronto	13/5	13/5	3/7	13/5	13/5	3/7
Vancouver	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7	3/7
Warsaw	0/2	0/2	-3/7	0/2	0/2	-3/7
Washington	18/6	18/6	12/3	18/6	18/6	12/3
Zurich	0/2	0/2	-3/7	0/2	0/2	-3/7

סדרת הארץ